City Council

Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor

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To participate in Public Forum in person, sign up at the meeting.
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*****ONLINE closes one hour prior to the beginning of public forum*****

Do not sign up in person and via Zoom - select one only

1. Agenda

Subject	**1.1. Motion to amend/adopt agenda**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	1. Agenda
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Procedural
Recommended Action	Motion to amend/adopt agenda as follows: remove from the deliberative agenda item 6.8. Reconnecting Bank & Cherry Project Update - DPW and place it on the January 12, 2026 City Council Consent Agenda (per City Council President Traverse per DPW Director Spencer).

2. Work Session Regarding Memorial Block Redevelopment Project Update (25 mins.)

Subject	**2.1. Work Session Regarding Memorial Block Redevelopment Project Update**

Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	2. Work Session Regarding Memorial Block Redevelopment Project Update (25 mins.)
Department	Community & Economic Development Office (CEDO)
Type	Discussion Information Presentation

3. Public Forum: Time Certain: 6:30 pm **See above for signup instructions**

Subject	**3.1. Verbal Comments**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	3. Public Forum: Time Certain: 6:30 pm **See above for signup instructions**
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Procedural
Recommended Action	open Public Forum close Public Forum

4. Mayor - General City Affairs (up to 10 mins.)

Subject	**4.1. Verbal reports**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	4. Mayor - General City Affairs (up to 10 mins.)
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

5. Consent Agenda

Subject	**5.1. Motion to adopt the consent agenda and take the actions indicated**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action (Consent) Procedural
Recommended Action	Motion to adopt the consent agenda and take the actions indicated
Subject	**5.2. Accountability List - DFA**

Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Communication Information
Recommended Action	waive the reading, accept the communication and place it on file

Subject	**5.3. December 1, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes - DFA**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Information Minutes
Recommended Action	approve the minutes

Subject	**5.4. December 1, 2025 Full Board of Abatement of Taxes Meeting Minutes - DFA**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Information Minutes
Recommended Action	approve the minutes

Subject	**5.5. Request to Accept a Gift from Cliff Landesman - BCA**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	City Arts
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	to accept the donation of two Endangered Alphabet Project panels to the City of Burlington from Cliff Landesman

Subject	**5.6. City Council Initiative Fund Support of Free 2025 Highlight Buttons - BCA**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	City Arts
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	to approve the use of $5,000 from the City Council Initiative Fund to subsidize Highlight tickets
Subject	**5.7. CJC FY26 Budget Amendment - CEDO/CJC**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Community & Economic Development Office (CEDO)
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	approve the proposed CJC budget amendment as shown on the attached budget amendment request and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to effectuate the changes in substantial conformance with the request
Subject	**5.8. Hannaford Donations - Fire**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Fire Department
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	to approve and authorize the Burlington Fire Department to accept donations from the Hannaford Community Bag Program in a total Fiscal Year 2026 amount not to exceed $500, subject to the review and approval of the Chief Administrative Officer or designee
Subject	**5.9. Communication: Beth Royer, Chittenden County Clerk, re: Chittenden County Budget Meeting Monday, December 15, 2025 @ noon**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Communication
Recommended Action	waive the reading and place the communication on file

Subject	**5.10. Communication: Linda Cherkassky, re: Making Public Health and Welfare the Priority**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Communication
Recommended Action	waive the reading and place the communication on file
Subject	**5.11. Tobacco and Tobacco Substitute Endorsement License Renewals (2025-2026): CSC Quick Stop, 1563 North Avenue**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	approve the 2025-2026 Tobacco and Tobacco Substitute Endorsement License Renewals for CSC Quick Stop, 1563 North Avenue
Subject	**5.12. FIO Documents**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Communication Information
Recommended Action	for information only
Subject	**5.13. Ordinance: Ticketing Authority For Parking Violations In City Parks (Ordinance Committee)**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	City Attorney
Type	Action (Consent)

Recommended Action	to waive the reading of the proposed ordinance amending B.C.O. § 22-23, and to suspend the rules to place the ordinance in all stages of passage (2/3 vote required)
Subject	**5.14. Resolution: Release Of Certain Glebe And Perpetual Lease-Land Interests And Revision Of The City Of Burlington Perpetual Lease Land Interests List (Councilor Traverse)**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action (Consent) Resolution
Recommended Action	waive the reading and adopt the resolution

6. Deliberative Agenda

Subject	**6.1. Indoor Entertainment Permit Application (2025-2026): SEABA, 400 Pine Street**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action
Recommended Action	approve the 2025-2026 Indoor Entertainment Permit Application for SEABA, 400 Pine Street with all standard conditions
Subject	**6.2. Tobacco Substitute Endorsement Application (2025-2026): Catamount Tobacco and Convenience LLC, 75 Church Street**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action
Recommended Action	approve the 2025-2026 Tobacco Substitute Endorsement Application for Catamount Tobacco and Convenience LLC, 75 Church Street
Subject	**6.3. Tobacco and Tobacco Substitute Endorsement License Applications (2025-2026): Store #1 Burlington, 457 St. Paul Street**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda

Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action
Recommended Action	approve the 2025-2026 Tobacco and Tobacco Substitute Endorsement License Applications for Store #1 Burlington, 457 St. Paul Street

Subject **6.4. Public Hearing Regarding MDP-26-01 Burlington's Open Space Plan**

Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Planning
Type	Action Public Hearing
Recommended Action	open Public Hearing close Public Hearing

Subject **6.5. 2025 Open Space Plan - Burlington Conservation Board (15 mins.)**

Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Planning
Type	Action
Recommended Action	waive the reading and refer the Open Space Plan for a second and final public hearing and adoption by City Council on January 12, 2026

Subject **6.6. Authorization to Execute a Grant to CVOEO to support Recovery Shelter - Mayor's Office (20 mins.)**

Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Mayor's Office
Type	Action
Recommended Action	authorize the Mayor to provide a grant to CVOEO in the sum of $104,000, to be paid out of the City’s FY26 opioid settlement funds

Subject **6.7. Burlington Police Department - Police Unified Pay Scale Adjustments (15 mins.)**

Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda

Department	Police Department
Type	Action
Recommended Action	move to approve, adopt, and authorize the proposed adjustments to the Police Unified Pay Scale, as outlined above, and to further authorize the extension of the benefits as outlined herein to all Class-A, sworn, non-union, supervisory personnel within the Burlington Police Department, as part of the comprehensive benefits package for such positions, subject to the final review and approval of the Chief Administrative Officer
Subject	**6.8. Reconnecting Bank & Cherry Project Update - DPW (20 mins.) **AGENDA ITEM REMOVED AND WILL BE PART OF THE 01/12/26 CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA****
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Public Works Department
Type	Action
Recommended Action	to accept this report and place it in the file
Subject	**6.9. Recycling Program Update and Extension of Employee Recruitment and Retention Memorandum of Agreement between AFSCME Local 1343 and City of Burlington - DPW (25 mins.)**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Public Works Department
Type	Action
Recommended Action	authorize the DPW Director to extend the DPW Employee Retention and Recruitment Memorandum of Agreement between AFSCME Local 1343 and City of Burlington, Department of Public Works through December 31, 2026, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney
Subject	**6.10. Ordinance: Sidewalk Interference BCO Chapter 27, Art. I (Department of Permitting and Inspections, Ordinance Committee)(10 mins.)**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Permitting & Inspections
Type	Action Ordinance - Second Reading

Recommended Action	waive the second reading, approve the ordinance as amended by the Ordinance Committee
Subject	**6.11. Ordinance: Unlawful Entry Into A Motor Vehicle (Councilor Traverse, Ordinance Committee)(10 mins.)**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Ordinance - Second Reading
Recommended Action	waive the second reading and adopt the ordinance
Subject	**6.12. Resolution: Compensation For School Board Members (Councilor Traverse) (10 mins.)**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Resolution
Recommended Action	waive the reading and adopt the resolution
Subject	**6.13. Resolution: March 3, 2026 Annual City Meeting -- Increase In Police & Fire Tax Rate (Councilor Bergman)(20 mins.)**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Mayor's Office
Type	Action Resolution
Recommended Action	waive the reading and refer to the Board of Finance
Subject	**6.14. Resolution: March 3, 2026 Annual City Meeting - Advisory Question Re Municipal Tax Reform (Councilor Bergman)(20 mins.)**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Mayor's Office

Type	Action Resolution
Recommended Action	to begin deliberation on the question but postpone action until January 12, 2026

7. Committee Reports

Subject	**7.1. Verbal reports**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	7. Committee Reports
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

8. City Council - General City Affairs (to include Climate and Public Health & Safety Emergency Updates: up to 5 mins. per Councilor)

Subject	**8.1. Verbal reports**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	8. City Council - General City Affairs (to include Climate and Public Health & Safety Emergency Updates: up to 5 mins. per Councilor)
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

9. City Council President - Council Updates (up to 5 mins.)

Subject	**9.1. Verbal reports**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	9. City Council President - Council Updates (up to 5 mins.)
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

10. Adjournment

Subject	**10.1. Motion to adjourn**
Meeting	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	10. Adjournment
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Procedural

Recommended Action	Motion to adjourn

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, Council and Licensing 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. This meeting will also air on Town Meeting TV the Wednesday after the meeting, starting at 8:00 pm and repeating at 1:00 am and 7:00 am the following day. 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	December 15, 2025 - Regular City Council Meeting - Monday, December 15, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	11. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

To: Mayor Emma Mulvaney Stanek
City Council
From: Kara Alnasrawi, CEDO Director
CC: Eric Jacobsen, Chief of Staff
Charles Dillard, OCP Director
Gummi Jonsson, CEDO Real Estate Development Manager
Date: December 10th 2025

RE: Memorial Block Redevelopment Project – Status Update and Next Steps

Background

The City of Burlington (the City) and the development team of Eric Farrell and Joseph Larkin (the Developer) entered into a Pre-Development Agreement (PDA) on March 26, 2024, establishing a structured collaborative process to evaluate the feasibility of redeveloping the Memorial Block to achieve shared goals established by the City and the Developer. The PDA outlines tasks including due diligence, conceptual design, financial capacity review, appraisal, financial modeling, and a shared determination of project viability.

As work progressed through 2024, both parties recognized the need for additional time to fully complete the PDA tasks. A First Amendment, executed on August 13, 2024, extended all internal dates and deadlines by four months. Continued progress and the complexity of the analysis led to a Second Amendment, executed on December 23, 2024, extending all dates and deadlines by an additional four months, for a total of eight months beyond the original schedule.

These extensions reflect a shared understanding that redeveloping this central civic block requires deliberate analysis, meaningful public engagement, careful financial planning, and thoughtful urban design.

On March 24, 2025, CEDO and the Developer provided a formal update to the City Council summarizing substantial progress under the PDA. That update highlighted the completion of community engagement activities, the delivery of early program work, financial due diligence, and a property appraisal. It also identified the additional work required to advance the project toward feasibility, including more detailed financial analysis, refined infrastructure cost evaluation, sequencing analysis, and continued community engagement tied to evolving conceptual design.

The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize the progress completed since the March 2025 update, outline ongoing work, and describe the next steps that will be undertaken to make a formal determination of project viability in June 2026.

Progress to Date

Execution of the Pre Development Agreement (March 2024)

The PDA was executed on March 26, 2024, establishing the framework for due diligence, feasibility analysis, financial evaluation, and collaborative decision making.

Developer Financial Capacity Review (Spring–Fall 2024)
The City engaged Shehadi Advisory to conduct an independent financial capacity assessment. Completed in December 2024, the review confirmed the Developer's qualifications and ability to undertake a project of this scale.

Early Concept Development and Program Work (2024-2025)
Through mid-year 2025, the Developer advanced early concept studies, program assumptions, and massing exploration to establish the foundation for subsequent design work.

Public Engagement Activities (Fall 2024–Winter 2025)
A community survey and in person engagement documented strong support for an active public realm, improved pedestrian connections, youth-oriented spaces, and preservation of the Veterans Memorial.

Appraisal (March 2025)
A full MAI appraisal was completed by Cushman and Wakefield in March 2025, fulfilling a key PDA requirement.

City Council Update (March 2025)
The City and the Developer delivered the first formal Council update on March 24, 2025, summarizing progress and outlining the work still required to advance toward a financial viability determination.

Conceptual Program & Design Package (Spring/Summer 2025)
The Developer, working with Utile, developed a concept vision for redevelopment of the block that is structured around the *Project Principles* identified in the PDA and an urban design focus that creates a block that is welcoming to all Burlington residents and visitors. This package includes a conceptual program, perspective views, massing and a site plan with a circulation strategy, structured parking concept, and a detailed public realm plan. This work includes a preliminary Zoning and Land Use review identifying potential regulatory conflicts.

Conceptual Sources and Uses (August 2025)
The Developer submitted a preliminary Sources and Uses analysis based on construction cost-estimating provided by Whiting-Turner (please see attachment). The Conceptual Sources and Uses was reviewed by the City's development consultant, Jeffrey Glassberg who undertook due diligence on behalf of the City with a focus on allocation of sources and uses of funds among discrete program elements as well as the pro forma operating assumptions used to size the debt capacity. This Conceptual Sources and Uses identified an initial funding gap of approximately $33MM, establishing the need for further refinement of the project concept as well as the need to identify additional funding resources.

Site Control (2024–2025)
The Developer has secured and maintained site control of the privately owned parcels at 230, 234, and 236 Main St.

Current Status:

Project Viability Analysis
The preliminary financial model identifies a substantial funding gap. To determine project viability, the City and Developer will continue to work in partnership to find a financially feasible path forward. To do this the City will require:

- Updated infrastructure cost estimates
- Refined TIF revenue and bonding scenarios
- Evaluation of tax stabilization tools
- Review of eligible federal and state funding programs
- A detailed fiscal and economic impact analysis

This work will be led by Taft Infrastructure Advisors and is underway.

Concurrently, the Developer will work to identify opportunities to reduce cost (such as eliminating the garage access from South Winooski and eliminating some of the proposed below-grade parking) and identify opportunities to evolve the project through additional partnerships and programmatic uses.

Taft Infrastructure Advisors Work Plan

To support the next phase of feasibility and implementation planning, the City has engaged Taft Infrastructure Advisors, with VHB and Baker Tilly, to conduct comprehensive financial, fiscal, and infrastructure analysis during early 2026. Their work includes infrastructure cost validation, sequencing analysis, updated financial modeling, TIF revenue refinement, bonding capacity evaluation, and analysis of federal and state funding opportunities.

Baker Tilly will prepare a fiscal and economic impact analysis. VHB will refine infrastructure cost estimates and sequencing. Together, this work will support a comprehensive financial feasibility assessment for the June 2026 Council update. This work will be fully funded by the $1 million Innovative Finance and Asset Concession (IFAC) Grant awarded to the City in 2024.

Central Fire Station

The fire station relocation study is ongoing, and the City is evaluating alternatives for relocating fire operations to a modern facility that meets current standards. At this time, redevelopment conceptual designs envision repurposing the historic Central Fire Station building for active commercial or community use as part of the long term redevelopment vision.

Next Steps and Timeline

January – May 2026

CEDO will work in partnership with the Developer to reach a viability determination. This work will include:

- Updated financial feasibility, infrastructure cost validation, and fiscal and economic impact analysis by Taft, VHB, and Baker Tilly
- Continued refinement of project assumptions with the Developer
- Advancement of the fire station relocation study
- Integration of cost, sequencing, and financing inputs into an updated financial model

June 2026 – City Council Update

CEDO and Developer will present findings from the work outlined above with a determination of project viability and recommended next steps. We anticipate this will include the framework for an Interim Development Agreement that will formally acknowledge the work done to date and set the parameters for the next stage of work. We anticipate the June 2026 Update will include:

- Updated Sources and Uses
- Fiscal and economic impact analysis
- Recommended City participation strategies
- A determination of project viability

If the City and Developer determine the project to be viable, we anticipate this update will also include:

- An Interim Development Agreement framework and proposed path toward a final Development Agreement and required implementing documents for the redevelopment.
- Updated timelines for community engagement, permitting, and implementation
- Any updates to the proposed concept

Conclusion

The City and Developer have completed most due diligence outlined in the PDA. Given the current gap in funding/financing the City and Developer will now work together to determine if there is a financially feasible path forward for the project. It is likely that this work will evolve the current conceptual design and program. The work underway will provide both the City and the Developer with the information necessary to determine whether the redevelopment of the Memorial Block through this public private partnership is feasible and to chart a responsible path forward in 2026.

Attachments:

1) Memorial Block Conceptual Sources and Uses

Project Name	**Memorial Block**
Date	**8/18/25**
Location	**Burlington, VT**

SOURCES & USES

SOURCES	Total $	% Of Total
Contribution of City Land[1]	8,025,000	4%
Equity		
Sponsor Equity	5,000,000	2%
Patient Capital	10,000,000	4%
Hotel Equity	27,500,000	12%
Brand Key Money	3,000,000	1%
Housing Equity	20,000,000	9%
Debt		
First Mortgage	81,200,000	36%
Tax Credits		
New Market Tax Credits	7,000,000	3%
Historic Tax Credits[2]	840,000	0.4%
Downtown & Village Tax Credits[2]	360,000	0.2%
Sales Tax Reallocation[3]	2,000,000	1%
TIF[4]	19,000,000	8%
Grants		
CDBG	500,000	0.2%
Downtown Transportation Fund	200,000	0.1%
NBRC Catalyst	3,000,000	1%
GAP Funding / Financing	32,390,000	14%
Deferred Developer Fee	4,500,000	2%
TOTAL SOURCES	**224,515,000**	100%

[1] This is the appraised value for the land less the cost of 230, 234, and 236 Main Street
[2] Assumed for Fire Station Only
[3] Assumes two phases of Sales Tax Reallocation at $1MM each
[4] Based on existing TIF Calculations (not CHIP)

USES	Total $	% Of Total
LAND VALUE	**10,825,000**	5%
CONSTRUCTION COSTS[1]		
Site	7,700,000	3%
Parking Garage	33,300,000	15%
Building	121,500,000	54%
Environmental & Special Conditions	3,000,000	1%
FF&E	6,100,000	3%
Contingency	6,500,000	3%
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COSTS	**178,100,000**	79%
SOFT COSTS		
Pre-Development	2,000,000	1%
A/E Design Fees	4,400,000	2%
Owner Consultants	3,200,000	1%
Legal & Accounting	1,400,000	1%
Permits & Fees	310,000	0.1%
Project Management & Administration	3,600,000	2%
Sales & Marketing	870,000	0%
Soft Cost Contingency	310,000	0%
Development/Management Fee	8,900,000	4%
TOTAL SOFT COSTS	**24,990,000**	11%
FINANCING & CARRYING COSTS		
Loan & Financing Fees	3,600,000	2%
Construction Loan Interest	6,100,000	3%
Taxes During Construction	950,000	0.4%
TOTAL FINANCE & CARRY COST	**10,600,000**	5%
TOTAL DEVELOPMENT COSTS	**224,515,000**	100%

[1] Based on conceptual Cost Estimate Provided by Whiting-Turner

Memorial Block Redevelopment Project

City Council Update
December 15, 2025

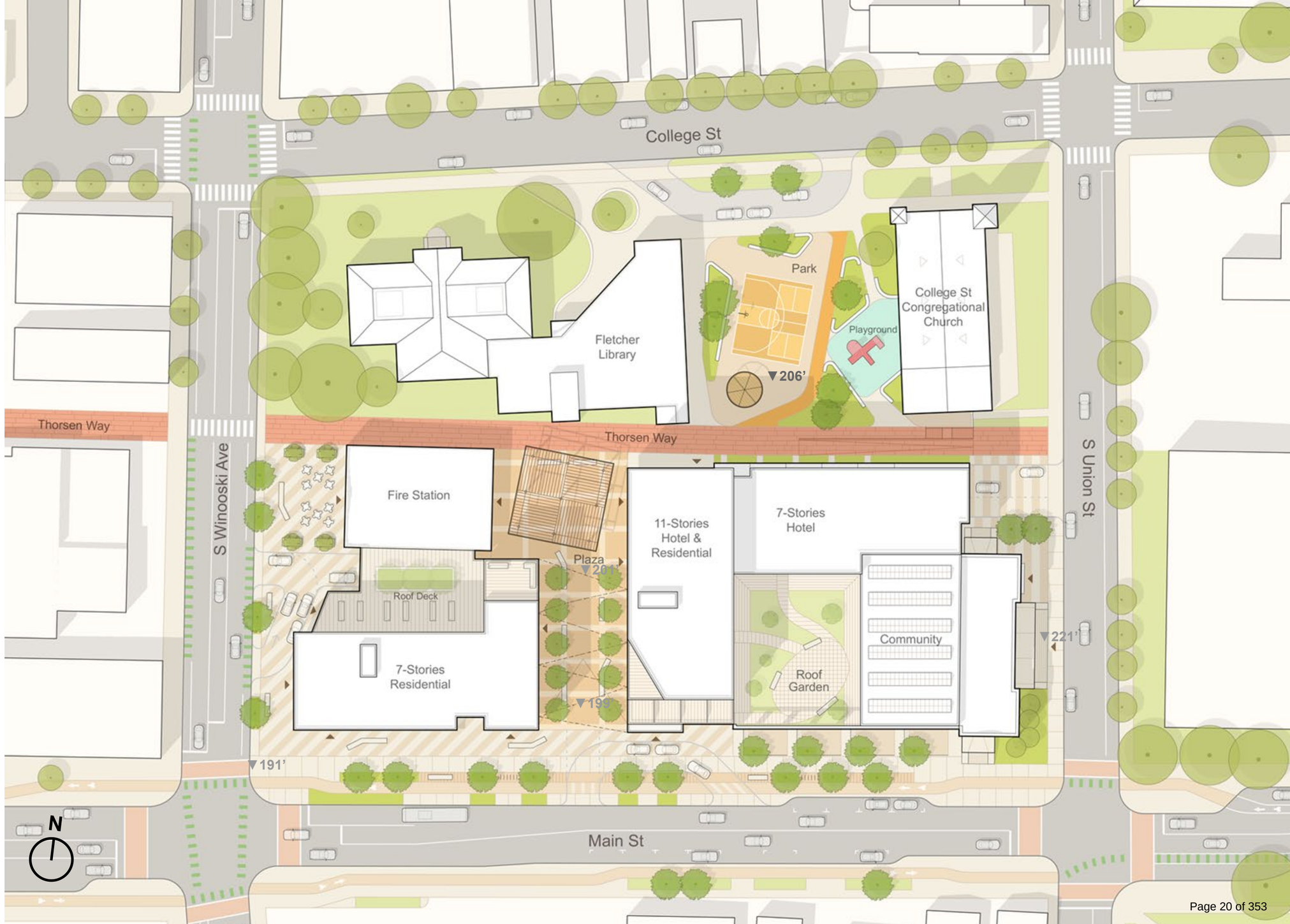
Status Update Summary

- PDA executed March 2024 and extended twice for deeper due diligence; major progress reported in March 2025 Council update.
- Current status and next steps:
  - Concept program and design package completed, including massing, site plan, and zoning review.
  - Preliminary Sources and Uses (Aug 2025) identifies ~33M dollar funding gap; Developer evaluating cost reductions.
  - Fire Station relocation study ongoing; historic station envisioned for adaptive reuse.
  - Current Work (Winter 2025–Spring 2026): financial modeling, infrastructure cost validation, phasing, fiscal/economic impact analysis, TIF/bonding/funding review.
  - **Next Steps:** June 2026 Council update with viability determination, updated Sources and Uses, recommended City participation, and possible Interim Development Agreement framework.

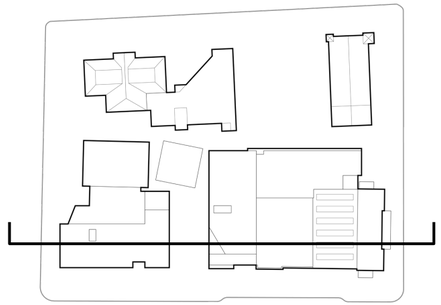
Memorial Block BTV Concept Design

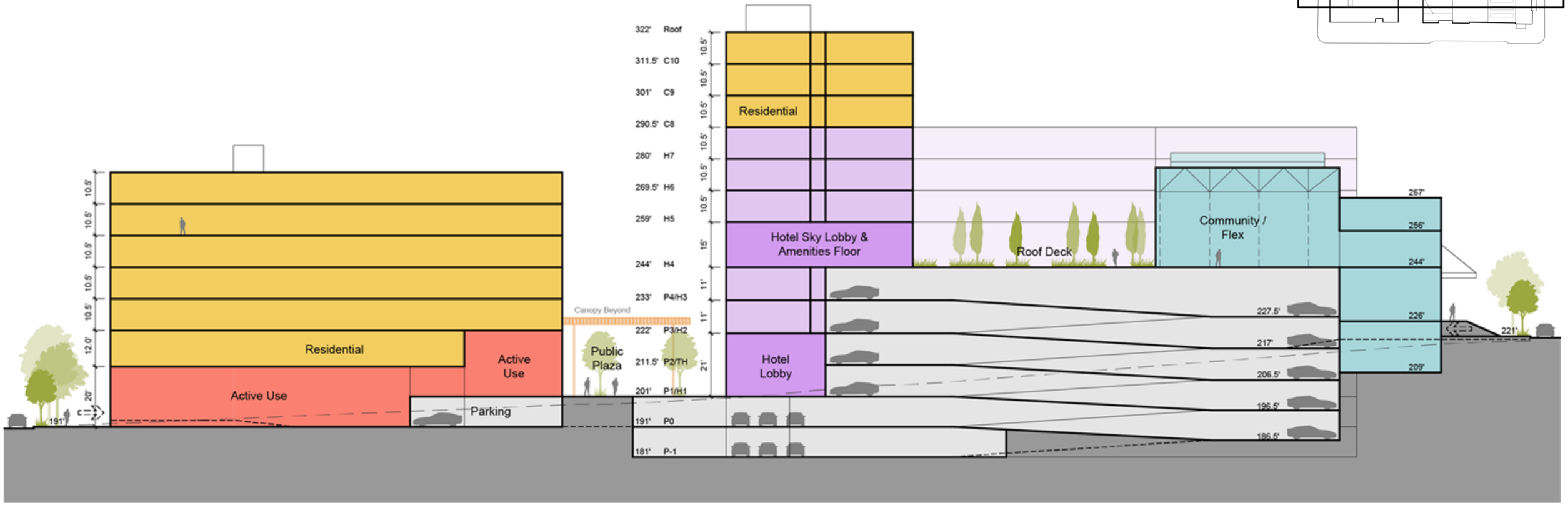
Urban Design focus to create a block that is welcoming to all Burlington residents and visitors, regardless of whether or not they live, stay, or work there.

Site Plan


College St
Thorsen Way
S Winooski Ave
S Union St
Main St
Fletcher Library
Park
Playground
College St Congregational Church
Fire Station
Roof Deck
7-Stories Residential
Plaza
11-Stories Hotel & Residential
7-Stories Hotel
Community
Roof Garden
▼206'
▼201'
▼199'
▼191'
▼221'
N

Section Diagram

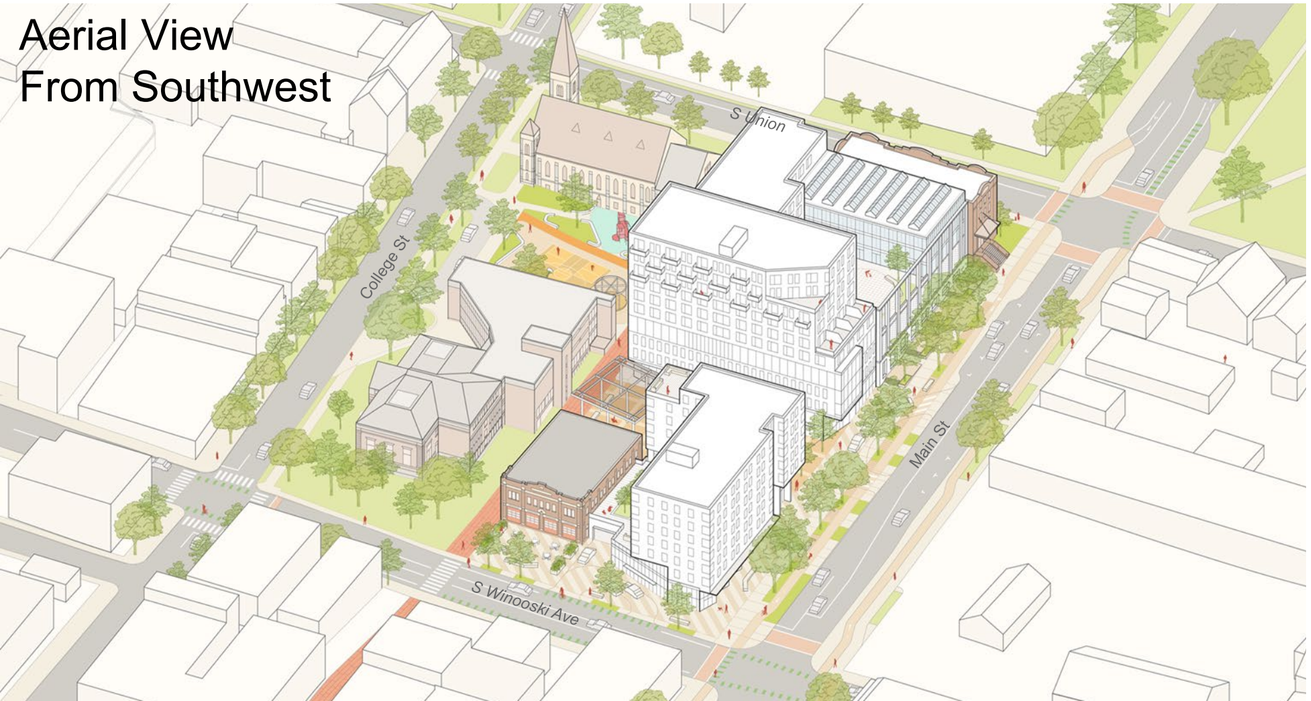




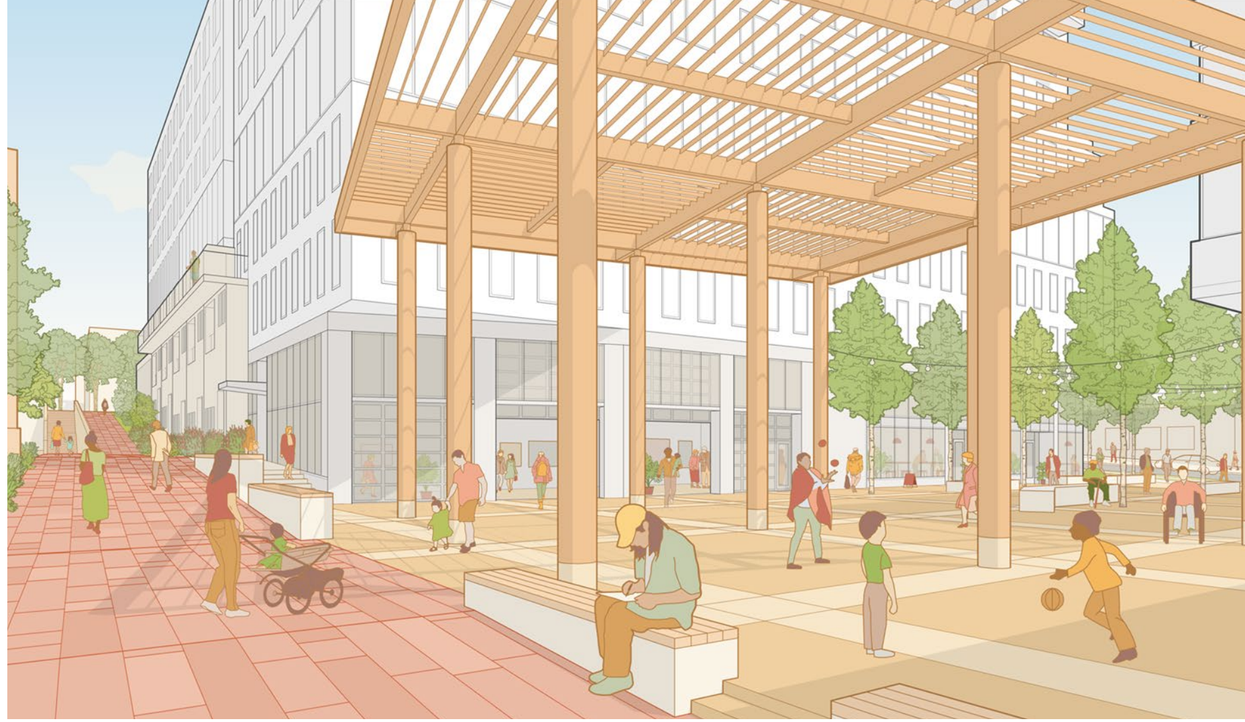
- **Residential**
- **Hotel**
- **Commercial / Active**
- **Community / Flex**
- **Parking**
- **Vehicular Access**

Aerial View
From Southeast

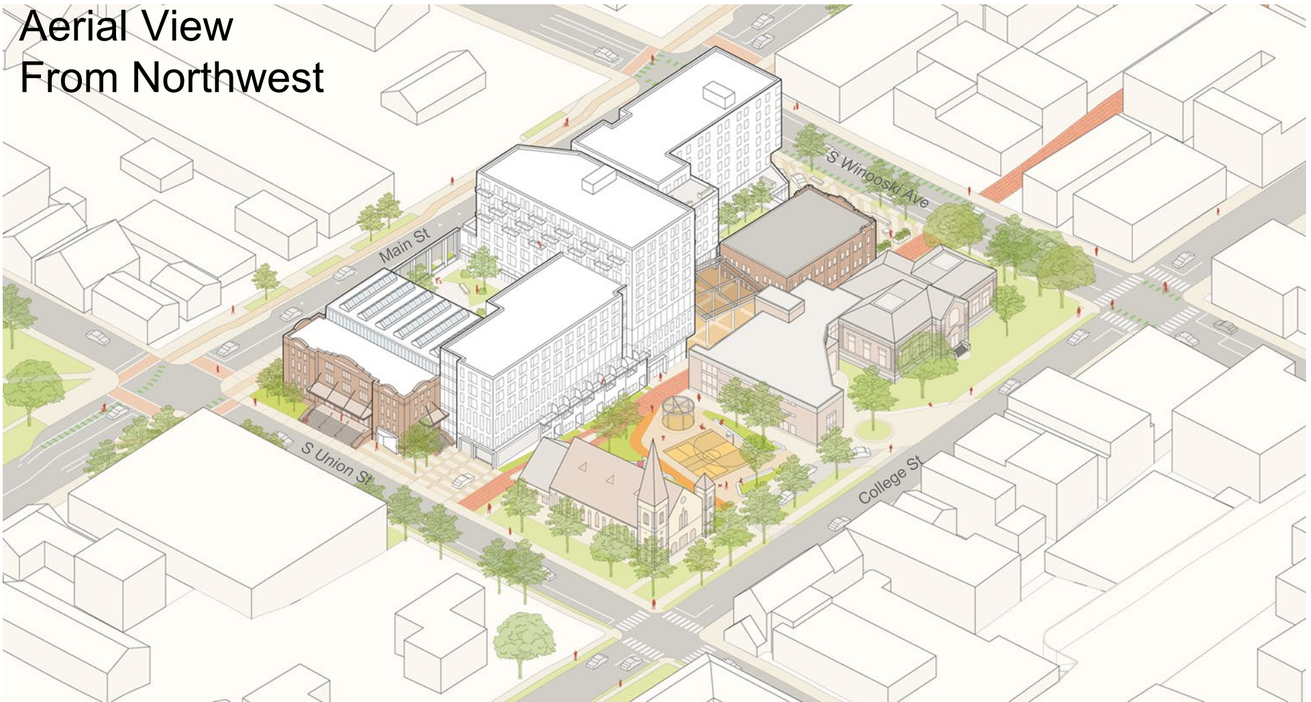
Aerial View
From Southwest

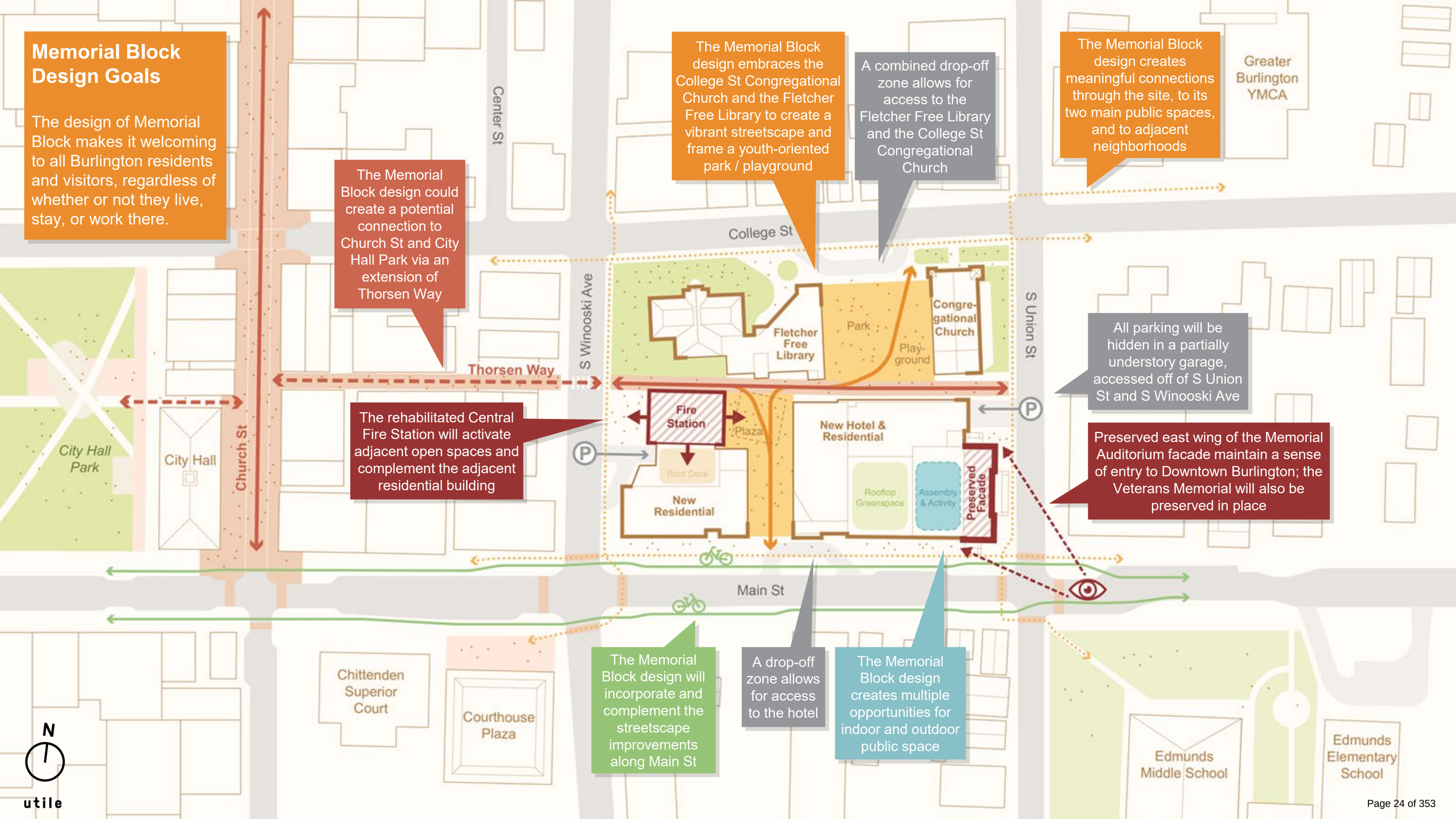


Aerial View
From Northeast



Aerial View
From Northwest




Memorial Block Design Goals
The design of Memorial Block makes it welcoming to all Burlington residents and visitors, regardless of whether or not they live, stay, or work there.
The Memorial Block design could create a potential connection to Church St and City Hall Park via an extension of Thorsen Way
The Memorial Block design embraces the College St Congregational Church and the Fletcher Free Library to create a vibrant streetscape and frame a youth-oriented park / playground
A combined drop-off zone allows for access to the Fletcher Free Library and the College St Congregational Church
The Memorial Block design creates meaningful connections through the site, to its two main public spaces, and to adjacent neighborhoods
Greater Burlington YMCA
Center St
College St
S Winooski Ave
S Union St
Thorsen Way
Church St
City Hall Park
City Hall
Fletcher Free Library
Park
Play-ground
Congre-gational Church
Fire Station
Plaza
New Hotel & Residential
Roof Deck
New Residential
Rooftop Greenspace
Assembly & Activity
Preserved Facade
All parking will be hidden in a partially understory garage, accessed off of S Union St and S Winooski Ave
Preserved east wing of the Memorial Auditorium facade maintain a sense of entry to Downtown Burlington; the Veterans Memorial will also be preserved in place
The rehabilitated Central Fire Station will activate adjacent open spaces and complement the adjacent residential building
Main St
The Memorial Block design will incorporate and complement the streetscape improvements along Main St
A drop-off zone allows for access to the hotel
The Memorial Block design creates multiple opportunities for indoor and outdoor public space
Chittenden Superior Court
Courthouse Plaza
Edmunds Middle School
Edmunds Elementary School
N
utile

BURLINGTON VERMONT

TO:	City Council
FROM:	Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
CC:	Katherine Schad, Chief Administrative Officer Jessica Brown, City Attorney Jen Monroe Zakaras, Deputy Chief of Staff Nancy Stetson, Senior Policy & Data Analyst
DATE:	December 15, 2025
RE:	Background and Analyses for Town Meeting Day 2026 Advisory Question on $30k Homestead Tax Exemption

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Purpose

This memo provides background context and the results of data analyses concerning the proposed advisory question for Town Meeting Day 2026 focused on a $30,000 homestead property tax exemption. Specifically, this memo describes the overall impacts of the exemption on homestead and non-homestead properties, as well as the impacts on rental properties, small multifamily properties, senior housing, permanently affordable housing, and commercial properties. The memo also presents overall impacts of the homestead exemption by city ward.

Key Points

- The proposed advisory question is non-binding and allows residents to voice their opinions on this issue ***before*** the Mayor and City Council take action.
- The proposed $30k homestead exemption is designed to help low- and moderate-income homeowners to continue to afford to live in Burlington.
- Nearly two-thirds of all homestead properties in Burlington would see a decrease of $150 or more off of their annual municipal tax bill. A homestead property is an owner-occupied primary residence.
- Tax rates set by the City Charter would be adjusted so that the proposed $30k homestead exemption would be revenue neutral. This means that non-homestead properties and high-value homestead properties would see increases in their annual municipal tax bills.
- The 3.1% increase in municipal tax bills for non-homestead properties is not expected to significantly increase rents in the city, for reasons explained starting on page 4.
- A revenue-neutral tax reform should be viewed holistically, considering the needs of renters, low- and moderate-income homeowners, and businesses alike, so that we balance “ability to pay” to ensure we maintain economic diversity and equity in Burlington.

Background

This year, the Mayor convened a Tax Fairness Working Group to study how to make Burlington's municipal tax system more equitable. A key finding[1] was that *inequitable property assessment* systematically burdened lower-value homeowners in the city. Specifically, lower-value properties are consistently over-assessed compared to their market value, while high-value properties are consistently under-assessed.[2] This means modest homeowners pay disproportionately more relative to their property's true market value. Inequitable property assessment is a well-documented issue in many parts of the country, not only Burlington, due to a number of structural and administrative reasons.[3]

A recommendation[1] from the Group that received the most support from members proposed creating a universal exemption for the first $30k to $50k of property value on homestead properties in the City, which would address the inequities in assessed values across low- and high-value properties. Value-based homestead exemptions exist in many states throughout the country. For example, South Carolina and Louisiana exempt $75,000 and $50,000, respectively, off of homestead properties. Burlington currently has a value exemption of $40,000 limited to veterans who are disabled, which is based on State law.

With the Mayor's commitment to addressing affordability in Burlington, she supports this recommendation[4] as a straightforward way to address the municipal tax burden on residents and rebalance how we raise revenue from primary residents compared to other types of property.

The proposed $30k homestead exemption is the minimal threshold to address the impacts of the assessment inequity noted by the Urban3 study. It is designed so that residential properties on the lowest end of the value scale receive the largest benefit. Tax rates set by the City Charter would be adjusted so that this is a *revenue-neutral measure*; therefore, the homestead exemption would

[1] See Tax Fairness Working Group Report:
https://burlingtonvt.portal.civicclerk.com/event/8227/files/attachment/11257
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[3] David Schleicher. "Your House Is Worth More Than They Think: The Strange Case of Property Tax Regressivity." Harvard Law School Journal on Legislation, Volume 62.1 (Winter 2025).
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lead to a 3.1% increase in municipal property taxes for all non-homestead properties and for the highest value homestead properties.[5]

These exemptions help *working households* in particular because they lower residential property-tax burdens, offering the greatest relief where it's most needed. This is especially helpful when home values rise faster than wages, as we are seeing in Burlington. Importantly, the proposed homestead exemption would apply only to primary homestead residences, which means the tax relief would go to people actually living and working in the community – especially important for working-class households.

Consistent with a core recommendation of the Tax Fairness Working Group, an advisory question would allow for *meaningful public engagement* – which is an essential component of implementing any tax reforms – by ensuring that residents have opportunities to learn about proposed changes and provide input before final decisions are made through a charter change. Robust public engagement is a key priority of Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak's administration.

An advisory question is a question placed on a ballot to measure public opinion, not to create or change law directly. The result does not force the City to make changes to existing laws, ordinances, or charter provisions, so it is *non-binding*. Instead, lawmakers can use the result to help decide whether to pursue charter or ordinance changes, adjust policy, or drop an idea altogether. Advisory questions thus strengthen democratic participation and public engagement by giving residents a chance to express their preferences on specific policies in ways that can guide future decision-making by elected officials.

Potential Impacts of the Proposed Homestead Exemption

Homestead Properties

Homestead properties, as defined by the state, are limited to owner-occupied primary residences. The benefit from the exemption is inversely proportional to the value of the homestead.

[5] The exemption has two mechanisms - a reduction in value for homesteads, and an increase in the tax rate to ensure the same level of overall revenue. For non-homestead properties, the only effect they see is the increase in the tax rate. For homestead properties, there is both a reduction from the exemption and an increase from the tax rate, but for most homestead properties the reduction from the exemption is higher than the increase from the tax rate, resulting in lower bills. For the highest value homestead properties, the tax rate increase counteracts the decrease in taxes from the exemption.

Out of 5,917 total homestead properties[6] in Burlington, nearly two-thirds (3,638) would see a decrease of $150 or more off of their annual municipal tax bill.

- A $30,000 exemption would eliminate the municipal property tax burden on properties assessed at less than $30,000 – for example, many of the mobile homes at the North Avenue Co-op.
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- Homestead properties with a value of $200k to $400k (N = 3,089) would see a median decrease of $178 annually, or 7% of their annual median bill.
- At an assessed value of about $1 million, the exemption and accompanying tax rate increase would balance, resulting in no change to the annual municipal bill. There are 118 homestead properties assessed at more than $1 million; these properties would see a median increase of $65 on their annual municipal bills, or about 0.6%.

Non-Homestead Properties

Non-homestead properties are those that are not owner-occupied primary residences. Examples include second homes or vacation properties, rental properties, and commercial properties.

All non-homestead properties would see a tax increase of 3.1% under the proposed $30k homestead exemption.

Rental Properties

As noted above, properties in Burlington that are rented would not receive the homestead exemption, resulting in an approximately 3.1% increase in the annual municipal property tax bill for these properties.

This table shows the effect of the homestead exemption on a selection of rental properties, from small to large scale and representing various levels of value.

[6] For the purposes of this analysis, any property that is at least partially a homestead is included here (e.g., homestead properties that are partially rentals or also have a business use).

Depending on the assessed value per unit, the municipal bill change, *if* entirely and evenly passed down to renters, could result in a small monthly increase of about $8 or less per month per unit.

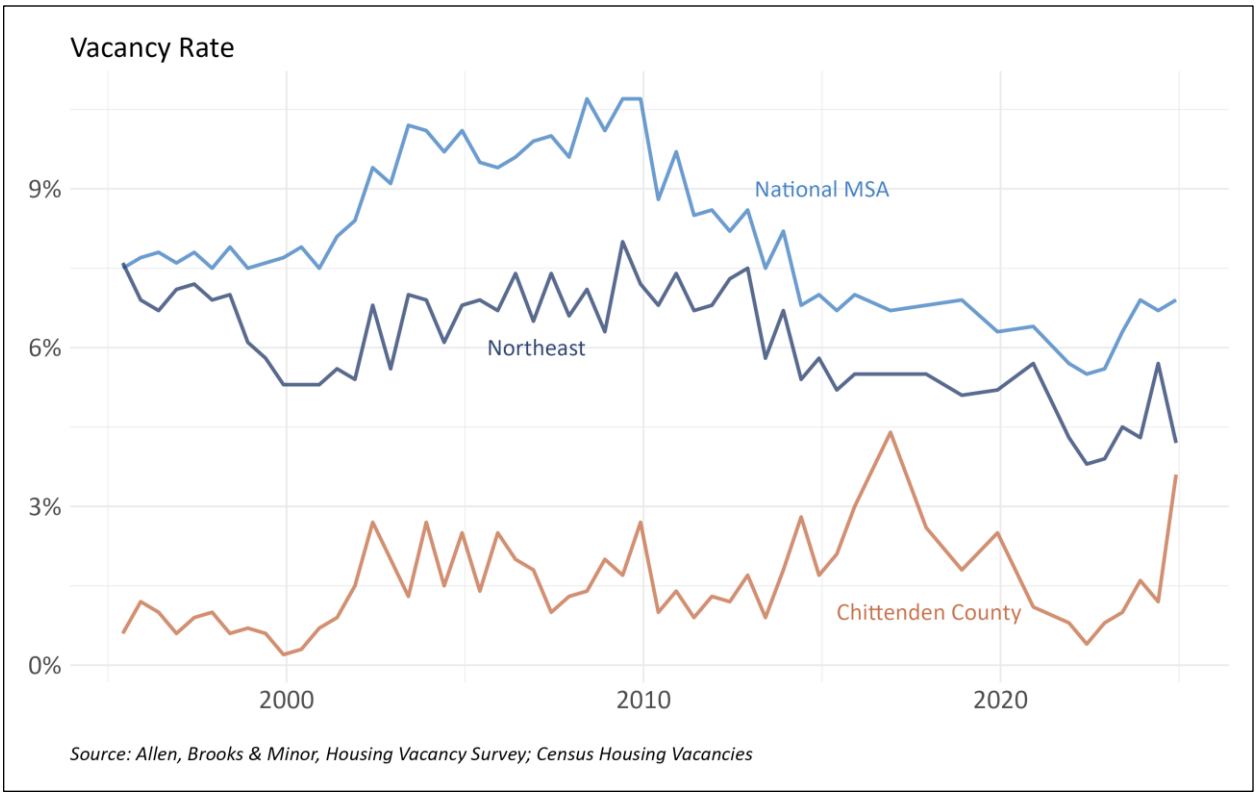
Address	**Assessed Value**	**Units**	**Average Assessed Value per Unit**	**Municipal Bill**	**Municipal Bill Change with Exemption**	***Annual* per Unit Change**
North Ave Apartments	$14,065,540	106	$132,694	$118,151	+$3,617	$34.12
Riverside Townhomes	$1,314,500	10	$131,450	$11,042	+$342	$34.20
Pearl St Apartments	$1,672,700	10	$167,270	$14,481	+430	$43.00
Home Ave Quadplex	$770,000	4	$192,500	$6,468	+$201	$50.13
Pine St Apartments	$11,683,200	49	$238,430	$98,139	+$3,042	$62.09
S. Union St Duplex	$738,000	2	$369,000	$6,202	+190	$95.00

Given the lack of tenant protections enshrined in law, it is a reasonable concern that the effects of the homestead exemption on municipal tax bills could be passed down to renters in the form of higher rents. The degree to which a landlord can do this is a matter of economic debate, and there is empirical evidence that landlords pass on some, but not all, of these costs. For example, a rigorous study[7] finds that landlords of residential units are able to pass down 14% of increased property tax cost to renters. *This memo conservatively shows a hypothetical and much higher 100% pass-through rate.*

There are many factors that shape a landlord's ability to increase rental rates, including market conditions and tenant behavior that can limit landlords' pricing power. In other words, landlords can charge what tenants are willing and able to pay, and some rent increases will simply be too much. While there are studies that show higher pass-through rates, these often focus on commercial rents, rather than residential ones.

[7] David J. Schwegman & John Yinger, 2020. "The Shifting of the Property Tax on Urban Renters: Evidence from New York State's Homestead Tax Option," Working Papers 20-43, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau. https://www.census.gov/library/working-papers/2020/adrm/CES-WP-20-43.html

It is also worth highlighting that the most recent measurement of the Chittenden County rental vacancy rate by Allen and Brooks, at 3.6%, was the highest it has been since 2016. A high vacancy rate further diminishes landlords' ability to raise rents, regardless of property tax costs.



Small Multifamily Property

According to state statute, a homestead may consist of a part of a multidwelling or multipurpose building but does not include any portion of a dwelling that is rented.[8] Owner-occupied duplexes, triplexes, and quadplexes can thus qualify as homestead properties for tax purposes; however, those that are not owner-occupied would not receive the proposed exemption. Instead, they, too, would see an approximately 3.1% increase in their municipal property tax bill. If conservatively estimating a 100% pass-through rate, this could result in a small increase of approximately $3 - $5 per unit per month.

[8] Residents can only file their homesteads on one property. If someone owns a duplex, and the duplex has separate parcels, the resident would only file the homestead for the unit that they live in. If the building they own only has one parcel with multiple living units on that property, they would file their homestead on that parcel and claim rental/business use for the percentage of space that they are not occupying as their primary residence.

Land Use	Median Assessed Value	Units	Median Assessed Value per Unit	Municipal Bill	Municipal Bill Change with Exemption	*Annual* Per Unit Change
R2 - 2 Family	$433,800	2	$216,925	$3,644	+$113	$56.50
R3 - 3 Family	$537,200	3	$179,900	$4,533	+$140	$46.70
R4 - 4 Family	$611,600	4	$152,888	$5,137	+$159	$39.75

Senior Housing

Like other non-homestead properties, senior housing would see a 3.1% increase in municipal property taxes under a homestead exemption. Due to the low per-unit assessments of these properties, the dollar value of increases per unit and month would be smaller than increases across other rental properties.

This table shows the effect of the homestead exemption on a selection of senior housing properties in Burlington.

Name	Assessed Value	Assessed Value Per Unit	Units	Municipal Bill	Municipal Bill Change with Exemption	*Annual* Per Unit Change
Converse Home	$1,097,300	$17,989	61	$9,217	+$282	$4.62
Birchwood Terrace	$11,937,400*	$74,609	160	$100,274	+$3,108	$19.42
Elderwood	$13,351,800	$89,012	150	$112,155	+$3,476	$23.18
Burlington Health and Rehab	$7,212,600	$82,903	87	$60,586	+$1,878	$21.59

* Includes the value of the building and leased land.

Permanently Affordable Housing

Like other rental housing, affordable rental housing properties would not qualify for the homestead exemption. Any effect of the homestead exemption on rent prices for affordable units is expected to be small.

Most affordable housing developments in Burlington—such as those owned by nonprofit or public entities like the Champlain Housing Trust and Burlington Housing Authority—are not

taxed in the same way as privately owned, market-rate housing due to state and local tax law. Depending on the property, ownership structure, and use, these developments may be fully taxable, partially exempt, or subject to alternative arrangements such as payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs). This structure allows affordable housing developments to meaningfully contribute to the City financially while preserving their long-term affordability.

In addition, many affordable housing developments are subject to rent restrictions tied to program income limits (e.g., rents set at percentages of area median income), and some receive state tax relief on assessed value to support affordability. Because rents in these developments must comply with those program rules, the ability to pass a property tax increase through to tenants is limited, and any resulting impact on rents is expected to be small.

Commercial Property

Commercial property would see an increase of 3.1%, like other non-homestead properties. The increase would be in direct proportion to the property's assessed value, so the magnitude of the increase would vary based on the wide variation in commercial property values. For example, a 1,000 sq. Ft. commercial condo in the Adams Building on South Union Street (assessed value: $119,800) would see an increase of $37 in municipal taxes per year. The Zero Gravity Restaurant and Brewery (assessed value: $4,325,600) would see an increase of $1,347. Hula, with an assessed value of $27 million, would see an increase of $8,355, or 3% more than what it paid for municipal taxes in FY25 ($270,480).

We recognize and appreciate that tax increases of any kind are serious considerations for our local businesses. We'd also like to emphasize that the City is committed to its business community and has made several recent changes and investments to help create a stronger environment for businesses to grow and thrive.

For example, beginning this year, the City has fully eliminated the Business Personal Property Tax, which historically raised approximately $1.1M annually from over 200 different businesses. That tax had been found to distort markets by discouraging capital investment, expansion, and replacement, while imposing high administrative and compliance costs and was thus eliminated. We invested $600K more in Great Streets Main Streets to reopen the street for the last several months during nights and weekends. We increased downtown BPD foot patrols since early summer 2025 and invested four-times more into the Howard Center Street Outreach Team compared to past years, both of which are very important to improving community safety in the downtown corridor. Additionally on the community safety front, we launched the Situation Table in July and worked with the Governor to develop a short-term response plan this fall.

Effects by Ward

The wards that would see the largest ***decrease*** in total municipal taxes are Wards 4 and 7, where there is a large percentage of relatively modest homesteads. Other wards would see an overall increase, though some increases, like for Wards 2 and 5, are minimal. Ward 3 sees the highest total increase due to the large overall grand list value there and the low percentage of homestead properties given its location that overlaps with the downtown area.

Ward	Parcels	Homestead Parcels		Non-Homestead Residential Parcels		Commercial Parcels		Median Homestead Assessed Value	Total Grand List	Tax Diff
1	961	439	46%	478	50%	44	5%	$433,102	$501M	$16,251
2	1,277	573	45%	641	50%	63	5%	$329,500	$570M	$7,576
3	1,200	272	23%	646	54%	282	24%	$464,396	$1,120M	$221,358
4	1,774	1,334	75%	422	24%	18	1%	$399,585	$839M	$(127,025)
5	1,700	1,065	63%	545	32%	90	5%	$453,949	$1,088M	$6,752
6	1,092	682	62%	367	34%	43	4%	$634,069	$760M	$20,256
7	1,911	1,458	76%	434	23%	19	1%	$294,147	$641M	$(201,664)
8	520	94	18%	388	75%	38	7%	$498,545	$371M	$71,827

Conclusion

As we consider the proposed tax reform, it's important to take a full and balanced view of what our city needs to remain healthy and equitable. Lower-income residents and working families have long needed meaningful relief, and many homeowners have not seen support despite rising housing costs and ongoing economic pressures. A revenue-neutral approach that adjusts the tax structure can help ensure that our overall system better reflects the realities facing all parts of our community. We must recognize the contributions and needs of businesses, residents, and homeowners alike to ensure that Burlington remains a place where everyone can succeed.

BURLINGTON VERMONT

TO:	City Council
FROM:	Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
CC:	Katherine Schad, Chief Administrative Officer Jessica Brown, City Attorney Jen Monroe Zakaras, Deputy Chief of Staff Nancy Stetson, Senior Policy & Data Analyst
DATE:	December 15, 2025
RE:	Background and Analyses for Town Meeting Day 2026 Advisory Question on $30k Homestead Tax Exemption

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All non-homestead properties would see a tax increase of 3.1% under the proposed $30k homestead exemption.

Rental Properties

As noted above, properties in Burlington that are rented would not receive the homestead exemption, resulting in an approximately 3.1% increase in the annual municipal property tax bill for these properties.

This table shows the effect of the homestead exemption on a selection of rental properties, from small to large scale and representing various levels of value.

[6] For the purposes of this analysis, any property that is at least partially a homestead is included here (e.g., homestead properties that are partially rentals or also have a business use).

Depending on the assessed value per unit, the municipal bill change, *if* entirely and evenly passed down to renters, could result in a small monthly increase of about $8 or less per month per unit.

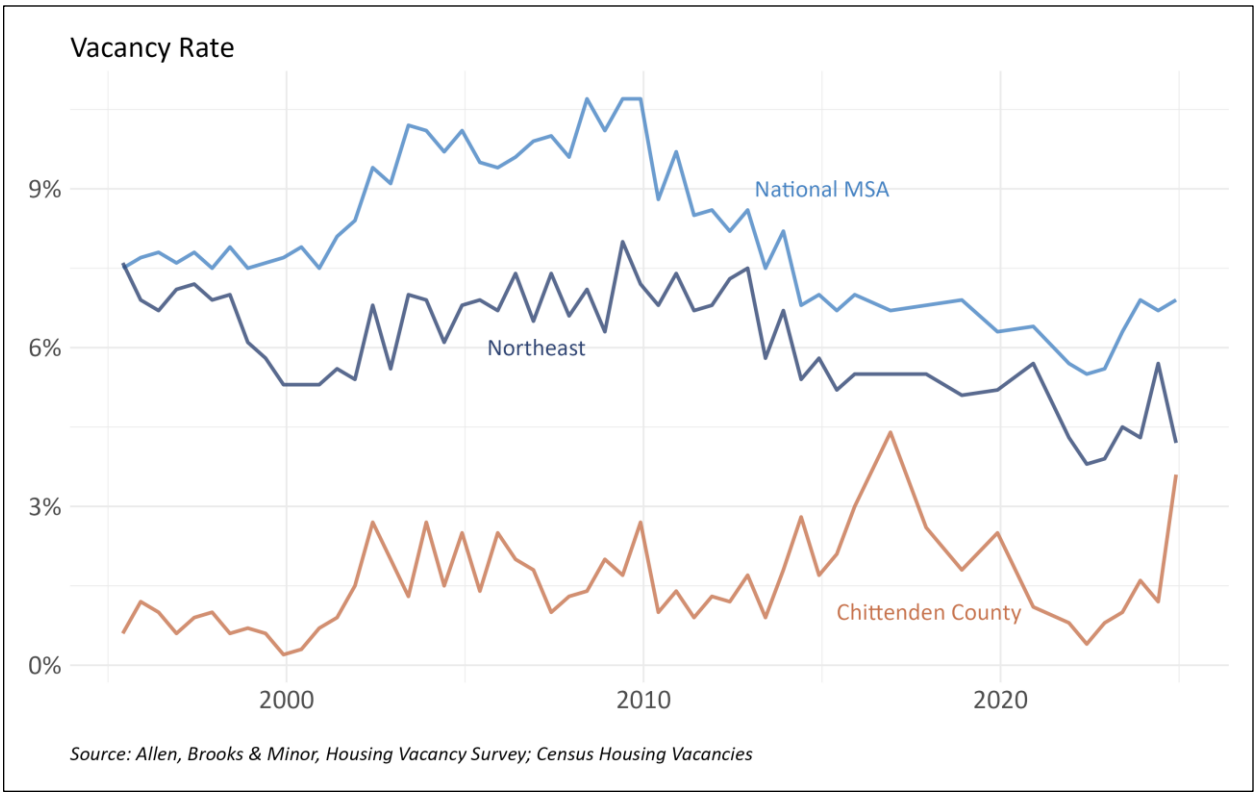
Address	**Assessed Value**	**Units**	**Average Assessed Value per Unit**	**Municipal Bill**	**Municipal Bill Change with Exemption**	***Annual* per Unit Change**
North Ave Apartments	$14,065,540	106	$132,694	$118,151	+$3,617	$34.12
Riverside Townhomes	$1,314,500	10	$131,450	$11,042	+$342	$34.20
Pearl St Apartments	$1,672,700	10	$167,270	$14,481	+430	$43.00
Home Ave Quadplex	$770,000	4	$192,500	$6,468	+$201	$50.13
Pine St Apartments	$11,683,200	49	$238,430	$98,139	+$3,042	$62.09
S. Union St Duplex	$738,000	2	$369,000	$6,202	+190	$95.00

Given the lack of tenant protections enshrined in law, it is a reasonable concern that the effects of the homestead exemption on municipal tax bills could be passed down to renters in the form of higher rents. The degree to which a landlord can do this is a matter of economic debate, and there is empirical evidence that landlords pass on some, but not all, of these costs. For example, a rigorous study[7] finds that landlords of residential units are able to pass down 14% of increased property tax cost to renters. *This memo conservatively shows a hypothetical and much higher 100% pass-through rate.*

There are many factors that shape a landlord's ability to increase rental rates, including market conditions and tenant behavior that can limit landlords' pricing power. In other words, landlords can charge what tenants are willing and able to pay, and some rent increases will simply be too much. While there are studies that show higher pass-through rates, these often focus on commercial rents, rather than residential ones.

[7] David J. Schwegman & John Yinger, 2020. "The Shifting of the Property Tax on Urban Renters: Evidence from New York State's Homestead Tax Option," Working Papers 20-43, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau. https://www.census.gov/library/working-papers/2020/adrm/CES-WP-20-43.html

It is also worth highlighting that the most recent measurement of the Chittenden County rental vacancy rate by Allen and Brooks, at 3.6%, was the highest it has been since 2016. A high vacancy rate further diminishes landlords' ability to raise rents, regardless of property tax costs.



Small Multifamily Property

According to state statute, a homestead may consist of a part of a multidwelling or multipurpose building but does not include any portion of a dwelling that is rented.[8] Owner-occupied duplexes, triplexes, and quadplexes can thus qualify as homestead properties for tax purposes; however, those that are not owner-occupied would not receive the proposed exemption. Instead, they, too, would see an approximately 3.1% increase in their municipal property tax bill. If conservatively estimating a 100% pass-through rate, this could result in a small increase of approximately $3 - $5 per unit per month.

[8] Residents can only file their homesteads on one property. If someone owns a duplex, and the duplex has separate parcels, the resident would only file the homestead for the unit that they live in. If the building they own only has one parcel with multiple living units on that property, they would file their homestead on that parcel and claim rental/business use for the percentage of space that they are not occupying as their primary residence.

Land Use	Median Assessed Value	Units	Median Assessed Value per Unit	Municipal Bill	Municipal Bill Change with Exemption	*Annual* Per Unit Change
R2 - 2 Family	$433,800	2	$216,925	$3,644	+$113	$56.50
R3 - 3 Family	$537,200	3	$179,900	$4,533	+$140	$46.70
R4 - 4 Family	$611,600	4	$152,888	$5,137	+$159	$39.75

Senior Housing

Like other non-homestead properties, senior housing would see a 3.1% increase in municipal property taxes under a homestead exemption. Due to the low per-unit assessments of these properties, the dollar value of increases per unit and month would be smaller than increases across other rental properties.

This table shows the effect of the homestead exemption on a selection of senior housing properties in Burlington.

Name	Assessed Value	Assessed Value Per Unit	Units	Municipal Bill	Municipal Bill Change with Exemption	*Annual* Per Unit Change
Converse Home	$1,097,300	$17,989	61	$9,217	+$282	$4.62
Birchwood Terrace	$11,937,400*	$74,609	160	$100,274	+$3,108	$19.42
Elderwood	$13,351,800	$89,012	150	$112,155	+$3,476	$23.18
Burlington Health and Rehab	$7,212,600	$82,903	87	$60,586	+$1,878	$21.59

* Includes the value of the building and leased land.

Permanently Affordable Housing

While affordable rental housing would not receive the homestead exemption, tenants would be shielded from large impacts on their monthly rents as these rents are capped based on household income. Some properties, like Decker Towers and others owned by the Burlington Housing Authority or the Champlain Housing Trust, are entirely exempt and do not pay property taxes. In situations where landlords are not yet charging the maximum amount of rent they are allowed by

law (i.e., they are charging below the rent cap[9]), any hypothetical pass through of municipal property tax increase onto tenants would be expected to be very low, given that the hypothetical increases discussed for private rental properties above is already quite small, and affordable housing is assessed at a discount per state/federal law.

Commercial Property

Commercial property would see an increase of 3.1%, like other non-homestead properties. The increase would be in direct proportion to the property's assessed value, so the magnitude of the increase would vary based on the wide variation in commercial property values. For example, a 1,000 sq. Ft. commercial condo in the Adams Building on South Union Street (assessed value: $119,800) would see an increase of $37 in municipal taxes per year. The Zero Gravity Restaurant and Brewery (assessed value: $4,325,600) would see an increase of $1,347. Hula, with an assessed value of $27 million, would see an increase of $8,355, or 3% more than what it paid for municipal taxes in FY25 ($270,480).

We recognize and appreciate that tax increases of any kind are serious considerations for our local businesses. We'd also like to emphasize that the City is committed to its business community and has made several recent changes and investments to help create a stronger environment for businesses to grow and thrive.

For example, beginning this year, the City has fully eliminated the Business Personal Property Tax, which historically raised approximately $1.1M annually from over 200 different businesses. That tax had been found to distort markets by discouraging capital investment, expansion, and replacement, while imposing high administrative and compliance costs and was thus eliminated. We invested $600K more in Great Streets Main Streets to reopen the street for the last several months during nights and weekends. We increased downtown BPD foot patrols since early summer 2025 and invested four-times more into the Howard Center Street Outreach Team compared to past years, both of which are very important to improving community safety in the downtown corridor. Additionally on the community safety front, we launched the Situation Table in July and worked with the Governor to develop a short-term response plan this fall.

Effects by Ward

The wards that would see the largest ***decrease*** in total municipal taxes are Wards 4 and 7, where there is a large percentage of relatively modest homesteads. Other wards would see an overall increase, though some increases, like for Wards 2 and 5, are minimal. Ward 3 sees the highest

[9] Vermont does not have a single, universal rent cap for all affordable housing; instead, rents are capped based on specific federal/state programs.

total increase due to the large overall grand list value there and the low percentage of homestead properties given its location that overlaps with the downtown area.

Ward	Parcels	Homestead Parcels		Non-Homestead Residential Parcels		Commercial Parcels		Median Homestead Assessed Value	Total Grand List	Tax Diff
1	961	439	46%	478	50%	44	5%	$433,102	$501M	$16,251
2	1,277	573	45%	641	50%	63	5%	$329,500	$570M	$7,576
3	1,200	272	23%	646	54%	282	24%	$464,396	$1,120M	$221,358
4	1,774	1,334	75%	422	24%	18	1%	$399,585	$839M	$(127,025)
5	1,700	1,065	63%	545	32%	90	5%	$453,949	$1,088M	$6,752
6	1,092	682	62%	367	34%	43	4%	$634,069	$760M	$20,256
7	1,911	1,458	76%	434	23%	19	1%	$294,147	$641M	$(201,664)
8	520	94	18%	388	75%	38	7%	$498,545	$371M	$71,827

Conclusion

As we consider the proposed tax reform, it's important to take a full and balanced view of what our city needs to remain healthy and equitable. Lower-income residents and working families have long needed meaningful relief, and many homeowners have not seen support despite rising housing costs and ongoing economic pressures. A revenue-neutral approach that adjusts the tax structure can help ensure that our overall system better reflects the realities facing all parts of our community. We must recognize the contributions and needs of businesses, residents, and homeowners alike to ensure that Burlington remains a place where everyone can succeed.

CITY COUNCIL ACCOUNTABILITY LIST

This list is a working document. It is a record of resolutions, ordinances, communications that have come to the Council and there is an action requested.

Prepared by: Lori Olberg, Council and Licensing Coordinator

12/15/2025

	Meeting Date	Type of Document and Title	Action Requested	Updated Next Steps in the Process
1	7/24/2023	Resolution: The Climate Emergency and the Council Request to Count Vermont Air National Guard GHG Emissions and to Plan to Eliminate VTANG Aviation and Ground GHG Emissions in the Spirit of the City's 2030 Net Zero Goals	requests that the Vermont Air Force National Guard Adjutant General, beginning for the year 2023, calculate aviation and ground fuel usage at the VTANG base and to annually provide BTV Director and TEUC with a complete record of the calculated aviation and ground greenhouse gas emission; for VTANG to work collaboratively to draft a plan to adopt simulation and augmented reality training to substantially reduce or eliminate GHG with initial meeting on or before 12/31/23 and follow up at TUEC's March 2024 meeting	Initial meeting of the parties by 12/31/2023; UPDATE: parties met at March TEUC meeting
2	5/20/2024	Resolution: A Building Emissions Reduction Ordinance	referred to TEUC	TEUC refer any working draft BERO and any related ballot language to the Ordinance Committee no later than the last City Council meeting in October of 2024
3	9/23/2024	Resolution: The Establishment Of A Downtown Public Safety HUB	the Public Safety Committee shall engage the community on its vision for a public safety hub, and this engagement shall include consultation with interested community partners, including, but not limited to, Neighborhood Planning Assemblies, the DPW Commission, Board of Health, Director of Business and Workforce Development and Church Street Marketplace Commission, Burlington Police Department & Crisis Advocacy Intervention Programs (CAIP), Burlington Fire Department and its Critical Response Team (CRT), Howard Center Street Outreach Team, Burlington Community Justice Center, Burlington Business Association and the general business community	the Public Safety Committee shall report back on the ideas and input from the community to the City Council on or by January 21, 2025, including any specific options or recommendations for a public safety hub (e.g.) new or existing freestanding structures, existing storefront space, a mobile public safety hub, etc.); and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after receiving this report from the Public Safety Committee, it is the stated intent of the full City Council to act on specific options or recommendations from the Public Safety Committee on or by March 10, 2025
4	1/27/2025	Resolution: Establishing A Violation Reporting Incentivization Pilot (VRIP)	referred to the Ordinance Committee, to report back to the City Council; CJC to report back to the City Council and Ordinance Committee	on or before March 24, 2025; by March 10, 2025 **UPDATE: The note with the action should state that the attorney-client privilege was waived for this communication by the Ordinance Committee and approved for publication at our September 18, 2025 committee meeting and that the committee deliberated and decided to table the matter to an unspecified future date.**
5	7/14/2025	Ordinance: An Amendment to Appendix D, Sections 2 and 5, Updating Parks Rules and Regulations	referred to to the Parks, Arts and Culture Committee	not-specified
6	8/25/2025	Resolution: Welcoming President Marlene Tromp, Re-affirming Our Longstanding Partnership With the University of Vermont, And Ackowledging Our Shared Commitment to Affordable, Safe, and High Quality Housing for Students	it was requested that the Mayor provide an update on the City and UVM's shared goals on housing, safety, and well-being	end of this calendar year
7	9/8/2025	Resolution: Consumer Choice And Disclosure For Fuel Purchases Made With Debit Cards	referred to the Ordinance Committee	not-specified
8	9/8/2025	Resolution: Consumer Choice And Disclosure Of Parking Terms & Rates In Privately Owned Lots	referred to the Ordinance Committee	not-specified
9	10/6/2025	Resolution: Financial Disclosure For Local Elected Officials	referred to the Ordinance Committee	not-specified
10	10/21/2025	Resolution: March 3, 2026 Annual City Meeting - Charter Change re: General Fund Tax Fairness (Referral to Charter Change Committee)	referred to the Charter Change Committee	12/1/2025
11	10/21/2025	Resolution: March 3, 2026 Annual City Meeting - Charter Change re: City Council Authority to Pledge Credit of the City (Referral to Charter Change Committee)	referred to tbe Charter Change Committee	12/1/2025
12	11/17/2025	2025 Open Space Plan	to refer the Open Space Plan for public hearing and adoption by the City Council	12/15/2025
13	11/17/2025	Ordinance: Sidewalk Interference BCO Chaper 27, Art. I	referred to the Ordinance Committee	not-specified
14	11/17/2025	Ordinance: Unlawful Entry Into A Motor Vehicle	referred to the Ordinance Committee	not-specified
15	12/1/2025	Ordinance: CDO--Technical Amendments and Minor Revisions ZA-26-01	waive the firsr reading, schedule a public hearing for January 12, 2026, and refer to the Ordinance Committee for a report back to the full City Council	no later than its January 12, 2026 meeting

BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
CONTOIS AUDITORIUM, 149 CHURCH STREET, 2ND FLOOR
MINUTES OF MEETING
December 1, 2025

1. Agenda

1. Agenda
City Council President Traverse convened the meeting at 6:05 pm.
Members present: City Council President Traverse, Councilors Barlow, Bergman, Broderick, Carpenter, Grant, Kane, Litwin, McKnight, Schachter and Singh (all in person); Councilor Neubieser (online)
Others present: Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak, COS Jacobsen, City Attorney Brown, Assistant City Attorney Ramakrishnan and Lori Olberg

Subject	**1.1. Motion to amend/adopt agenda**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	1. Agenda
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Procedural
Recommended Action	Motion to amend/adopt agenda as follows: remove from the consent agenda item 5.6. Designation of Staff to Issue Municipal Tickets - Police and place on the deliberative agenda as item 6.6. (per City Council President Traverse per Councilor Grant)

1.1. Motion to amend/adopt agenda
Motion made by Councilor Singh, seconded by Councilor Bergman, to adopt the agenda as amended/presented. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Executive Session (25 mins.)

2. Executive Session (25 mins.)
City Attorney Brown spoke to this agenda item.

Subject	**2.1. Executive Session to confer with City Attorney's office regarding overdose prevention center**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	2. Executive Session (25 mins.)
Department	City Attorney

Type	Action Procedural
Recommended Action	1. To make a specific finding that premature general public knowledge of confidential attorney-client communications made for purposes of providing professional legal services to the City Council would clearly place the City at a substantial disadvantage by discussing privileged matters and attorney work product in public; and 2. To move into executive session based upon the foregoing specific finding, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(F), to confer with the City Attorney regarding funding under Act. 178 (2024) for an overdose prevention center, to include the members of the City Council, the City Attorney and her staff, the Mayor and her staff, and the Chief Administrative Officer and her staff.

2.1. Executive Session to confer with City Attorney's office regarding overdose prevention center
Motion 1 as presented: Made by Councilor Singh, seconded by Councilor Schachter. Motion passed unanimously.
Motion 2 as presented: Made by Councilor Singh, seconded by Councilor Bergman. Motion passed unanimously.
The City Council went into Executive Session at 6:08 pm.
The City Council came out of Executive Session at 6:40 pm.

3. Public Forum: Time Certain: 6:30 pm **See above for signup instructions**

3. Public Forum: Time Certain: 6:30 pm **See above for signup instructions**
City Council President Traverse opened Public Forum at 6:42 pm.
City Council President Traverse closed Public Forum at 6:48 pm.

Subject	**3.1. Verbal Comments**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	3. Public Forum: Time Certain: 6:30 pm **See above for signup instructions**
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Procedural
Recommended Action	open Public Forum close Public Forum

3.1. Verbal Comments
BTV residents (in person):
Andrea Viets: Services for Seniors; Heineberg MOU, 6.3, in support of
Nolan Rogers: construction etc./vacant building ordinance enforcement

BTV resident (online):
Sharon Bushor: parking ordinance, 6.2, in support of

4. Mayor - General City Affairs (up to 10 mins.)

4. Mayor - General City Affairs (up to 10 mins.)

Subject	**4.1. Verbal reports**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	4. Mayor - General City Affairs (up to 10 mins.)
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

4.1. Verbal reports

5. Consent Agenda

5. Consent Agenda
Motion made by Councilor Litwin, seconded by Councilor Grant, to adopt the consent agenda as amended and take the actions indicated. Motion passed unanimously.
Councilor Bergman was not at the table to vote.

Subject	**5.1. Motion to adopt the consent agenda and take the actions indicated**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action (Consent) Procedural
Recommended Action	Motion to adopt the consent agenda and take the actions indicated

5.1. Motion to adopt the consent agenda and take the actions indicated

Subject	**5.2. Accountability List - CT**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Communication Information
Recommended Action	waive the reading, accept the communication and place it on file

5.2. Accountability List - CT

Subject	**5.3. November 17, 2025 Local Control Commission Meeting Minutes - DFA**

Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Minutes
Recommended Action	approve the minutes

5.3. November 17, 2025 Local Control Commission Meeting Minutes - DFA

Subject	**5.4. November 17, 2025 Local Cannabis Control Commission Meeting Minutes - DFA**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Minutes
Recommended Action	approve the minutes

5.4. November 17, 2025 Local Cannabis Control Commission Meeting Minutes - DFA

Subject	**5.5. November 17, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes - DFA**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Minutes
Recommended Action	approve the minutes

5.5. November 17, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes - DFA

Subject	**5.6. Designation of Staff to Issue Municipal Tickets - Police **NOW AGENDA ITEM 6.6****
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda

Department	Police Department
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	to approve the designation of CSO Ratna Polk as a municipal enforcement officer for purposes of enforcing the Burlington City Ordinances, authorizing CSO Polk to issue civil tickets for violations of the same; and, to further authorize the Burlington Police Department to submit the attached designation form so designating CSO Polk to the Vermont Judicial Bureau, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney's Office

5.6. Designation of Staff to Issue Municipal Tickets - Police ****NOW AGENDA ITEM 6.6****

Subject	**5.7. Great Streets Main Street Project Budget Amendment - DPW**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Public Works Department
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	1. To approve the increase in the Great Streets Main Street by $559,215.50 for the PCF, Ravine Sewer, and Grant funds; with $640,000 in TIF Earnings subject to the review and approval by VEPC; for a total increase in the overall project budget of up to $1,199,215.50. Resulting in the total authorized amount from $35,391,395.09 to $36,590,610.59 for the Great Streets Main Street project. 2. To approve the amendment of the Downtown TIF Substantial Change application dated October 6, 2025 to VEPC to include the PCF funds that have been reimbursed to the City. 3. To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or their designee, to effect all necessary budget amendments and transfers of funds to and from the above-referenced funding sources as needed to pay the above-referenced project expenses and Overall Project Budgets, in substantial conformance with the attached budget transfer request.

5.7. Great Streets Main Street Project Budget Amendment - DPW

Subject	**5.8. BHS/BTC Project Update - Burlington School District**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Burlington School District
Type	Action (Consent) Information Communication
Recommended Action	waive the reading, accept the communication and place it on file

5.8. BHS/BTC Project Update - Burlington School District

Subject	**5.9. Reclassification of one (1) DPI - Zoning Division Manager as summarized**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Permitting & Inspections
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	☐ to approve the reclassification of the Department of Permitting and Inspections Zoning Division Manager/Principal Planner a Regular, Full-time Exempt, Non-union Grade 22 step 15 position to Zoning Division Manager/Principal Planner, a Regular, Full-time Exempt, Non-union Grade 24 step 13 position, retroactive to July 1, 2025

5.9. Reclassification of one (1) DPI - Zoning Division Manager as summarized

Subject	**5.10. Communication: Troy Headrick, re: Strong Support for Dormitory Inspection Resolution - Agenda Item 6.4**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Communication
Recommended Action	waive the reading and place the communication on file

5.10. Communication: Troy Headrick, re: Strong Support for Dormitory Inspection Resolution - Agenda Item 6.4

Subject	**5.11. UVM Student Tenant Union Testimonials, CC Public Forum 11/17/25**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Communication Information
Recommended Action	waive the reading and place the communication on file

5.11. UVM Student Tenant Union Testimonials, CC Public Forum 11/17/25

Subject	**5.12. Burlington Local Health Office Annual Report: 2025**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Information Report
Recommended Action	waive the reading and place the report on file

5.12. Burlington Local Health Office Annual Report: 2025

Subject	**5.13. Robert Miller Community Center Energy Improvement and Equipment Replacement Project - BPRW**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	to approve and authorize that the City Council approve and authorize the execution of a contract with Energy Efficient Investments, Inc., for the Robert Miller Community Center Energy Improvement and Equipment Replacement project, in the amount of $1,325,300, plus a project contingency of $132,000, for a total authorized contract expenditure including contingency not to exceed $1,457,300, and to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Waterfront, or designee to execute the contract and any related documents necessary or convenient to effecting the contract or carrying out the project, subject to the review and approval as to form of the City Attorney’s Office

5.13. Robert Miller Community Center Energy Improvement and Equipment Replacement Project - BPRW

Subject	**5.14. Innovative Finance and Asset Concession (IFAC) Grant - Spending Authorization - CEDO**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Community & Economic Development Office (CEDO)
Type	Action (Consent)

Recommended Action	1. To approve the increase in the IFAC (USDOT Innovative Finance and Asset Concession) Grant project budget by $850,000.00, resulting in the total authorized amount increasing from $150,000.00 to $1,000,000.00 for the IFAC Grant project supporting the South End Coordinated Redevelopment (SECORD) and Memorial Block initiatives. 2. To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or their designee, to effect all necessary budget amendments and transfers of funds to and from the above-referenced funding sources as needed to pay the above-referenced project expenses and Overall Project Budgets, in substantial conformance with the attached budget transfer request.

5.14. Innovative Finance and Asset Concession (IFAC) Grant - Spending Authorization - CEDO

Subject	**5.15. FIO Documents**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Communication Information
Recommended Action	for information only

5.15. FIO Documents

Subject	**5.16. Ordinance: ZA-26-01 (Office of City Planning, Planning Commission)**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda
Department	Planning
Type	Action (Consent) Ordinance - First Reading
Recommended Action	waive the first reading, schedule a public hearing for January 12, 2026, and refer to the Ordinance Committee for a report back to the full City Council no later than its January 12, 2026 meeting

5.16. Ordinance: ZA-26-01 (Office of City Planning, Planning Commission)

Subject	**5.17. Resolution: Authorization For $1,808,000 Construction Loan From Vermont Drinking Water State Revolving Fund For Upgrade Of Distribution System (Board of Finance)**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	5. Consent Agenda

Department	Public Works Department - Water Resources
Type	Action (Consent) Resolution
Recommended Action	waive the reading and adopt the resolution

5.17. Resolution: Authorization For $1,808,000 Construction Loan From Vermont Drinking Water State Revolving Fund For Upgrade Of Distribution System (Board of Finance)

6. Deliberative Agenda

6. Deliberative Agenda

Subject	**6.1. Authorization to Sign a Cooperation Agreement with HowardCenter Inc. - Mayor's Office (25 mins.)**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Mayor's Office
Type	Action
Recommended Action	to authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement and to take all such further actions, and to execute all such further instruments approved as to form by the City Attorney, as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the transactions contemplated hereby

6.1. Authorization to Sign a Cooperation Agreement with HowardCenter Inc. - Mayor's Office (25 mins.)
COS Jacobsen spoke to this agenda item.
Motion made by Councilor Bergman, seconded by Councilor McKnight, to approve the motion as presented.
Motion passed unanimously.

Subject	**6.2. Ordinance: Parking Enforcement (Public Works Commission)(15 mins.)**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	City Attorney
Type	Action Ordinance - Second Reading
Recommended Action	(1) To waive and approve the second reading of the proposed ordinance amending Chapters 20 and 27 of the Burlington Code of Ordinances. (2) To refer provisions of the ordinance regarding noticing of temporary parking restrictions back to the Ordinance Committee for review and to report back concerning any further recommended actions.

6.2. Ordinance: Parking Enforcement (Public Works Commission)(15 mins.)
Assistant City Attorney Erik Ramakrishnan was present to answer any questions regarding this agenda item.
Motion made by Councilor Bergman, seconded by Councilor Barlow, to approve the motion as presented.
Motion passed unanimously.

Subject	**6.3. Authorization to Execute Cooperative Agreement with Heineberg Senior Center - Mayor's Office (20 mins.)**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Mayor's Office
Type	Action
Recommended Action	authorize the Mayor to provide a grant to, and execute a cooperative agreement with, the Heineberg Senior Center, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney's Office; authorize also the Parks and Recreation Department to make all necessary grant payments to the Heineberg Senior Center per the terms of the executed agreement

6.3. Authorization to Execute Cooperative Agreement with Heineberg Senior Center - Mayor's Office (20 mins.)
Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak, COS Jacobsen and Heineberg Center Executive Director Viets spoke to this agenda item.
Motion made by Councilor Carpenter, seconded by Councilor Schachter, to approve the motion as presented.
Motion passed unanimously.
Councilor Broderick was not at the table to vote.

Subject	**6.4. Authorization to Execute Subrecipient Agreement with Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform (VCJR) - Mayor's Office (35 mins.)**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Mayor's Office
Type	Action
Recommended Action	<u>Updated Motion Language at 8 pm, 12/1/25:</u> 1. Authorize the Mayor to execute the subrecipient agreement with VCJR, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney's Office, and subject further to negotiation of a modification of Section 4.d, to read substantially as follows: "Subject to Section 14(a) and all Applicable Laws, including any additional requirements of the Guidelines and the Passthrough Requirements, Provider shall provide reasonable access to the OPC to the Mayor, the Mayor's designee, and members of the City Council upon request to determine compliance with this Agreement. under a policy to be developed in collaboration with the City, pursuant to Section 1.n of the Scope of Work. The City shall provide no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior notice to Provider to access the OPC. The parties further

acknowledge that any policies and procedures submitted to the City for review pursuant to Section 1.n of the Scope of Work will be delivered both to the Mayor and/or the Mayor's designee and the City Council."

2. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to make all necessary amendments to the approved budget to reflect the execution of the subrecipient agreement.
3. Designate the Board of Health to collaborate with the City and the OPC Provider in developing a plan for addressing community concerns related to the OPC operated pursuant to the Subrecipient Agreement, in an advisory capacity to the City Council.

Updated Motion Language:

1. Authorize the Mayor to execute the subrecipient agreement with VCJR, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney's Office, and subject further to negotiation of a modification of Section 4.d, to read substantially as follows: "Subject to Section 14(a) and all Applicable Laws, including any additional requirements of the Guidelines and the Passthrough Requirements, Provider shall provide reasonable access to the OPC to the Mayor and/or the Mayor's designee upon request to determine compliance with this Agreement. Members of the City Council shall be provided reasonable access to the OPC under a policy to be developed in collaboration with the City, pursuant to Section 1.n of the Scope of Work. The City shall provide no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior notice to Provider to access the OPC."
2. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to make all necessary amendments to the approved budget to reflect the execution of the subrecipient agreement.
3. Designate the Board of Health to collaborate with the City and the OPC Provider in developing a plan for addressing community concerns related to the OPC operated pursuant to the Subrecipient Agreement, in an advisory capacity to the City Council.

Original Motion Language:

Authorize the Mayor to execute the subrecipient agreement with VCJR, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney's Office.
Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to make all necessary amendments to the approved budget to reflect the execution of the subrecipient agreement.

6.4. Authorization to Execute Subrecipient Agreement with Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform (VCJR) - Mayor's Office (35 mins.)

Theresa Vezina spoke to this agenda item. Bill Dalton and Jess Kirby were online to answer any questions.
City Council President Traverse took a roll call vote regarding a 5 minute recess:
Ayes: Councilors Barlow, Bergman, Broderick, Carpenter, Kane, Litwin, McKnight, Neubieser, Schachter, SIngh and City Council President Traverse
Nay: Councilor Grant
Motion passed 11:1.
Motion made by Councilor Bergman, seconded by Councilor McKnight, to approve the motion that was presented/updated at 8 pm on December 1st.
Motion passed unanimously.

Subject **6.5. City of Burlington 2026 Legislative Priorities - Mayor's Office (20 mins.)**

Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Mayor's Office
Type	Information Discussion

Recommended Action

6.5. City of Burlington 2026 Legislative Priorities - Mayor's Office (20 mins.)
Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak spoke to this agenda item.
Motion made by Councilor McKnight, seconded by Councilor Bergman, to endorse the top four (4) items in the memo.
Motion passed unanimously.

Subject	**6.6. Designation of Staff to Issue Municipal Tickets - Police **WAS CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 5.6****
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	6. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Police Department
Type	Action
Recommended Action	to approve the designation of CSO Ratna Polk as a municipal enforcement officer for purposes of enforcing the Burlington City Ordinances, authorizing CSO Polk to issue civil tickets for violations of the same; and, to further authorize the Burlington Police Department to submit the attached designation form so designating CSO Polk to the Vermont Judicial Bureau, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney's Office

6.6. Designation of Staff to Issue Municipal Tickets - Police ****WAS CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 5.6****
Interim Police Chief Burke spoke to this item.
Motion made by Councilor Grant, seconded by Councilor Bergman, to approve the motion as presented.
Motion passed unanimously.

7. Committee Reports

7. Committee Reports

Subject	**7.1. Verbal reports**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	7. Committee Reports
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

7.1. Verbal reports

8. City Council - General City Affairs (to include Climate and Public Health & Safety Emergency Updates: up to 5 mins. per Councilor)

8. City Council - General City Affairs (to include Climate and Public Health & Safety Emergency Updates: up to 5 mins. per Councilor)

Subject	**8.1. Verbal reports**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	8. City Council - General City Affairs (to include Climate and Public Health & Safety Emergency Updates: up to 5 mins. per Councilor)
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

8.1. Verbal reports

9. City Council President - Council Updates (up to 5 mins.)

9. City Council President - Council Updates (up to 5 mins.)

Subject	**9.1. Verbal reports**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	9. City Council President - Council Updates (up to 5 mins.)
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

9.1. Verbal reports

10. Adjournment

10. Adjournment

Subject	**10.1. Motion to adjourn**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	10. Adjournment
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Procedural
Recommended Action	Motion to adjourn

10.1. Motion to adjourn
City Council President Traverse adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

11. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements

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, Council and Licensing 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. This meeting will also air on Town Meeting TV the Wednesday after the meeting, starting at 8:00 pm and repeating at 1:00 am and 7:00 am the following day. 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	December 1, 2025 - City Council Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 6:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	11. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements
Department	Council and Board
Type	Information

11.1. This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. For more information on access, call Lori Olberg, Council and Licensing 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. This meeting will also air on Town Meeting TV the Wednesday after the meeting, starting at 8:00 pm and repeating at 1:00 am and 7:00 am the following day. 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.

BURLINGTON FULL BOARD OF ABATEMENT OF TAXES
CONTOIS AUDITORIUM, 149 CHURCH STREET, 2ND FLOOR
MINUTES OF MEETING
December 1, 2025

1. Agenda

1. Agenda
City Council President Traverse recessed the Regular City Council Meeting at 7:03 pm and convened the Full Board of Abatement of Taxes Meeting at 7:03 pm.
Members present: Councilors Barlow, Bergman, Broderick, Carpenter, Grant, Kane, Litwin, McKnight, Schachter, Singh, City Council President Traverse and Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak (all in person): Councilor Neubieser (online)
Others present: City Attorney Brown, Assistant City Attorney Ramakrishnan, COS Jacobsen and Lori Olberg

Subject	**1.1. Motion to adopt agenda**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - Full Board of Abatement of Taxes Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 7:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	1. Agenda
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Procedural
Recommended Action	Motion to adopt agenda

1.1. Motion to adopt agenda

2. Consent Agenda

2. Consent Agenda
Motion made by Councilor Kane, seconded by Councilor Litwin, to adopt the consent agenda and take the actions indicated.
Motion passed unanimously.
Councilor Bergman was not at the table to vote.

Subject	**2.1. Motion to adopt the consent agenda and take the actions indicated**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - Full Board of Abatement of Taxes Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 7:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	2. Consent Agenda
Department	Council and Board

Type	Action (Consent) Procedural
Recommended Action	Motion to adopt the consent agenda and take the actions indicated

2.1. Motion to adopt the consent agenda and take the actions indicated

Subject	**2.2. Notice City Of Burlington Full Board Of Abatement Of Taxes - DFA**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - Full Board of Abatement of Taxes Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 7:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	2. Consent Agenda
Department	Department of Finance and Administration
Type	Action (Consent) Communication Information
Recommended Action	waive the reading, accept the communication and place it on file

2.2. Notice City Of Burlington Full Board Of Abatement Of Taxes - DFA

Subject	**2.3. Request for Abatement of Taxes: Greater Burlington YMCA, Daniel Smith, President & CEO, 286 College Street, 050-1-082-000**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - Full Board of Abatement of Taxes Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 7:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	2. Consent Agenda
Department	Assessor's Office
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	the committee recommends denial of the request

2.3. Request for Abatement of Taxes: Greater Burlington YMCA, Daniel Smith, President & CEO, 286 College Street, 050-1-082-000

Subject	**2.4. Request for Abatement of Taxes: Michael Keppler, 11 Tallwood Lane, 033-1-056-000**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - Full Board of Abatement of Taxes Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 7:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	2. Consent Agenda
Department	Assessor's Office
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	the committee recommends denying the abatement request

2.4. Request for Abatement of Taxes: Michael Keppler, 11 Tallwood Lane, 033-1-056-000

3. Deliberative Agenda

3. Deliberative Agenda

Motion made by Councilor Kane, seconded by Councilor Litwin, to approve the motion as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
Councilor Bergman was not at the table to vote.

Subject	**3.1. Request for Abatement of Taxes: Helen R. Weltman, 109 Northshore Drive, 021-2-211-109**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - Full Board of Abatement of Taxes Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 7:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	3. Deliberative Agenda
Department	Assessor's Office
Type	Action
Recommended Action	the committee recommends granting the abatement request, in the amount of $80.36

3.1. Request for Abatement of Taxes: Helen R. Weltman, 109 Northshore Drive, 021-2-211-109

4. Adjournment

4. Adjournment

Subject	**4.1. Motion to adjourn**
Meeting	December 1, 2025 - Full Board of Abatement of Taxes Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025, 7:00 PM, Contois Auditorium, 149 Church Street, 2nd Floor
Category	4. Adjournment
Department	Council and Board
Type	Action Procedural
Recommended Action	Motion to adjourn

4.1. Motion to adjourn
City Council President Traverse adjourned the meeting at 7:04 pm.

BCA

To: City of Burlington, City Council
From: Doreen Kraft, BCA Director
CC: Colin Storrs, Public Art Manager
Date: December 15, 2025
Subject: Request to Accept a Gift from Cliff Landesman

Burlington City Arts respectfully requests that City Council accept the donation by Cliff Landesman of two hand-carved wooden panels created by Tim Brookes to be displayed in the City. The donor is offering the City two hand-carved wooden artworks, “Love” and “Joy,” created in the rare Folded Mongolian script, as a gift to be displayed in a location agreed upon by the donor and the City, symbolizing inclusivity, diversity, and welcome. This gift is given in the spirit of a parting gift to the City that Brookes sees as uniquely creative, supportive, and open-minded, a community where those very attributes made it possible for the Endangered Alphabets Project to grow into a globally recognized initiative, and through this gift, he wishes to honor the city’s role in that success.

Burlington City Arts will work with city partners and the donor to establish the final location of the donation and, to facilitate its installation.

This gift allows the City to publicly celebrate the role that a supportive, open-minded, and creative community plays in fostering globally significant work, while offering a lasting symbol of inclusivity, diversity, and welcome within a prominent public civic space. Additionally, BCA would like to express our thanks to Mr. Landesman and Mr. Brookes on behalf of the City for his generosity of object and spirit.

Warmly, Doreen

Doreen Kraft
Executive Director
Burlington City Arts

Motions

Burlington City Arts respectfully requests the City Council approve the following motion:

City Council Motion:
To accept the donation of two Endangered Alphabet Project panels to the City of Burlington from Cliff Landesman.

Board of Finance and City Council Submission Checklist

Version: April 2025

Department: City Arts Submitter: Colin Storrs

Title/Subject: Request to Accept a Gift from Cliff Landesman

Approval Requested:		Meeting Date:
☐	Board of Finance	Click or tap to enter a date.
☒	City Council	12/15/2025
☐	Both BOF and Council	Click or tap to enter a date.

Instructions

1. This form must be completed by the person submitting the materials.
2. This form must be sent with the final submission of materials in advance of the meeting.
3. Do not indicate that a sign-off was received until it has actually been obtained.
4. Commission reports and presentations do not need to be reviewed by the CAO or Attorneys.
5. Name the reviewing Attorney or HR Manager in the Note column.

Signoff Needed	Received?	Approval Date	Note
Department Head	Yes	12/4/2025	Doreen Kraft
Mayor's Office	Yes	12/9/2025	Erin Jacobsen
Board/Commission	No	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
City Attorney's Office for memo and contracts or legal documents	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
City Attorney's Office for memo and motion(s) or resolution(s)	Yes	12/5/2025	Emmett Wood
CAO for budget, financing, and memo	Yes	12/8/2025	Katherine Schad
Human Resources, if personnel action or policy	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
CIO, if IT-related	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.

BCA

To: City of Burlington, City Council
City of Burlington, Board of Finance
From: Doreen Kraft, BCA Director
Date: December 15, 2025
Subject: City Council Initiative Fund Support of Free 2025 Highlight Buttons

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Burlington City Arts respectfully requests approval for the use of $5000 from the City Council Initiative Fund to underwrite low and moderate income families and small community organizations to attend Highlight 2025 for free.

Highlight welcomes revelers to celebrate New Year's Eve in Burlington's downtown and Waterfront. Vermont artists, food vendors, musicians, and everyone in between come together to create a one-of-a-kind event that Highlights the best of Vermont.

Approval of this request will help BCA and the City ensure that financial hardship is not a barrier for any citizen to participate in this special community experience. Though we have worked to keep fees affordable, a balanced event budget is dependent on ticket sales. At the same time, ticket prices, coupled with fees have increased the buyer price from $18 last year to $20 this year in advance of the event, which is out of reach for many.

BCA is committed to the outreach and promotion required to connect this opportunity with our most vulnerable citizens. With funding support from City Council, we will be able to ensure that everyone in our community can experience the joy and wonder of Highlight on New Year's Eve.

Thank you for your consideration.

Warmly, Doreen

Doreen Kraft
Executive Director
Burlington City Arts

Motions

Board of Finance Motion:

To recommend that City Council approve the use of $5,000 from the City Council Initiative Fund to subsidize Highlight tickets.

City Council Motion:
To approve the use of $5,000 from the City Council Initiative Fund to subsidize Highlight tickets.

Board of Finance and City Council Submission Checklist

Version: April 2025

Department: City Arts Submitter: Colin Storrs

Title/Subject: City Council Initiative Fund Support of Free 2025 Highlight Buttons

Approval Requested:		Meeting Date:
☐	Board of Finance	Click or tap to enter a date.
☐	City Council	Click or tap to enter a date.
☒	Both BOF and Council	12/15/2025

Instructions

1. This form must be completed by the person submitting the materials.
2. This form must be sent with the final submission of materials in advance of the meeting.
3. Do not indicate that a sign-off was received until it has actually been obtained.
4. Commission reports and presentations do not need to be reviewed by the CAO or Attorneys.
5. Name the reviewing Attorney or HR Manager in the Note column.

Signoff Needed	Received?	Approval Date	Note
Department Head	Yes	12/4/2025	Doreen Kraft
Mayor's Office	Yes	12/9/2025	Erin Jacobsen
Board/Commission	No	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
City Attorney's Office for memo and contracts or legal documents	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
City Attorney's Office for memo and motion(s) or resolution(s)	Yes	12/5/2025	Emmett Wood
CAO for budget, financing, and memo	Yes	12/8/2025	Katherine Schad
Human Resources, if personnel action or policy	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
CIO, if IT-related	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.

TO:	Board of Finance and City Council
FROM:	Kara Alnasrawi, CEDO Director Rachel Jolly, CJC Director
CC:	Katherine Schad, CAO
DATE:	Nov. 21, 2025

RE: CJC FY26 Budget Amendment

Background:

The Community Justice Center (CJC) received an increase in one of its primary contracts from FY25 to FY26 that had not been anticipated when the City's FY26 budget was being finalized: the VT Attorney General's Office allocation to the CJC increased from $739,092 to $953,658 in FY26 to account for new work related to pre-charge diversion.

In addition, the CJC General org set (301-31-315-361) had rollover funds from FY25 to FY26 in the amount of $76,172 that were also not known at the time of the FY26 City Budget approval and are therefore also being captured in this budget amendment.

Both of these changes have necessitated this large budget amendment effecting multiple budget lines to capture the additional impact the increased grant will have on salaries and operational expenses for the CJC.

Motion Language:

Board of Finance: Approve and recommend to City Council for approval the proposed CJC budget amendment as shown on the attached budget amendment request and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to effectuate the changes in substantial conformance with the request.

City Council: Approve the proposed CJC budget amendment as shown on the attached budget amendment request and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to effectuate the changes in substantial conformance with the request.

CITY OF BURLINGTON, VT
BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST

Department: CEDO - CJC

Requested By: Rachel Jolly **Date:** 11/5/25

Dept. Approval **Date:** 11/21/25

CAO (up to $25k): **Date:**

Mayor ($25k-$50k): **Date:**

Briefly explain the reason for the amendment:

Integration of new grant funds and roll forward of CJC 361 funds to meet grant conditions and program needs.

BUDGET AMENDMENT DETAILS

Net Revenues =	257,032.00
Net Expenses =	117,694.00
Fund Balance =	139,338.00

Org Set	GL #	Type	GL Description	Increase/ (Decrease)
301-31-315-360 .	5000_100	E	Salaries and Wages - Regular, Full Time	7,845
301-31-315-360 .	5200_116	E	Other Personnel Services - Longevity Pay	25
301-31-315-360 .	5400_100	E	Employee Benefits - FICA	602
301-31-315-360 .	5400_115	E	Employee Benefits - Retirement B	264
301-31-315-360 .	5400_125	E	Employee Benefits - Health Insurance	3,528
301-31-315-360 .	5400_130	E	Employee Benefits - Dental Insurance	(89)
301-31-315-360 .	5400_135	E	Employee Benefits - Life Insurance	17
301-31-315-360 .	6015	E	Computer Software	500
301-31-315-360 .	6025	E	Furnishings	2,000
301-31-315-360 .	6700_135	E	Travel & Training - Lodging	200
301-31-315-361 .	5000_100	E	Salaries and Wages - Regular, Full Time	(114,003)
301-31-315-361 .	5000_110	E	Salaries and Wages - Regular Part Time	2,880
301-31-315-361 .	5200_116	E	Other Personnel Services - Longevity Pay	(280)
301-31-315-361 .	5400_100	E	Employee Benefits - FICA	(8,523)

CITY OF BURLINGTON, VT
BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST

Department: CEDO - CJC

Requested By: Rachel Jolly **Date:** 11/5/25

301-31-315-361 . 5400_115	E	Employee Benefits - Retirement B	(12,762)
301-31-315-361 . 5400_125	E	Employee Benefits - Health Insurance	(43,553)
301-31-315-361 . 5400_130	E	Employee Benefits - Dental Insurance	(1,758)
301-31-315-361 . 5400_135	E	Employee Benefits - Life Insurance	(273)
301-31-315-361 . 5400_150	E	Employee Benefits - Recognition	200
301-31-315-361 . 6015	E	Computer Software	600
301-31-315-361 . 6025	E	Furnishings	52,000
301-31-315-361 . 6208	E	Special Supplies	1,000
301-31-315-361 . 6290	E	Programs	500
301-31-315-362 . 4875_165	R	Grants - Other Operating	9
301-31-315-362 . 5000_100	E	Salaries and Wages - Regular, Full Time	(2,793)
301-31-315-362 . 5400_100	E	Employee Benefits - FICA	(213)
301-31-315-362 . 5400_115	E	Employee Benefits - Retirement B	(285)
301-31-315-362 . 5400_125	E	Employee Benefits - Health Insurance	(1,223)
301-31-315-362 . 5400_130	E	Employee Benefits - Dental Insurance	(47)
301-31-315-362 . 5400_135	E	Employee Benefits - Life Insurance	(7)
301-31-315-362 . 7200_115	E	Capital Leases - Equipment	(100)
301-31-315-371 . 4600_105	R	Fees For Services - Public Safety	10,000
301-31-315-371 . 4875_165	R	Grants - Other Operating	264,566
301-31-315-371 . 4950	R	Donations	(10,000)
301-31-315-371 . 5000_100	E	Salaries and Wages - Regular, Full Time	172,303
301-31-315-371 . 5200_116	E	Other Personnel Services - Longevity Pay	275
301-31-315-371 . 5400_100	E	Employee Benefits - FICA	13,202
301-31-315-371 . 5400_115	E	Employee Benefits - Retirement B	10,644
301-31-315-371 . 5400_125	E	Employee Benefits - Health Insurance	35,222
301-31-315-371 . 5400_130	E	Employee Benefits - Dental Insurance	1,665
301-31-315-371 . 5400_135	E	Employee Benefits - Life Insurance	228
301-31-315-371 . 6246	E	Outreach	500
301-31-315-373 . 4875_165	R	Grants - Other Operating	(7,543)
301-31-315-373 . 5000_100	E	Salaries and Wages - Regular, Full Time	1,630
301-31-315-373 . 5400_100	E	Employee Benefits - FICA	124
301-31-315-373 . 5400_115	E	Employee Benefits - Retirement B	(143)
301-31-315-373 . 5400_125	E	Employee Benefits - Health Insurance	(235)
301-31-315-373 . 5400_130	E	Employee Benefits - Dental Insurance	(7)
301-31-315-373 . 5400_135	E	Employee Benefits - Life Insurance	(1)
301-31-315-375 . 5000_110	E	Salaries and Wages - Regular Part Time	(2,880)
301-31-315-375 . 5200_116	E	Other Personnel Services - Longevity Pay	(20)
301-31-315-375 . 5400_100	E	Employee Benefits - FICA	(222)
301-31-315-375 . 5400_115	E	Employee Benefits - Retirement B	(294)

CITY OF BURLINGTON, VT
BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST

Department: CEDO - CJC

Requested By: Rachel Jolly **Date:** 11/5/25

301-31-315-375 .	5400_125	E	Employee Benefits - Health Insurance	(520)
301-31-315-375 .	5400_130	E	Employee Benefits - Dental Insurance	(20)
301-31-315-375 .	5400_135	E	Employee Benefits - Life Insurance	(9)

For New World import:

Date	Account	Amount	Description
11/24/2025	301313153605	7,845	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153605	25	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153605	602	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153605	264	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153605	3,528	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153605	(89)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153605	17	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153606	500	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153606	2,000	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153606	200	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153615	(114,003)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153615	2,880	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153615	(280)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153615	(8,523)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar

11/24/2025	301313153615	(12,762)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153615	(43,553)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153615	(1,758)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153615	(273)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153615	200	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153616	600	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153616	52,000	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153616	1,000	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153616	500	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153624	9	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153625	(2,793)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153625	(213)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153625	(285)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153625	(1,223)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153625	(47)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153625	(7)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153627	(100)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153714	10,000	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153714	264,566	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153714	(10,000)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153715	172,303	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153715	275	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153715	13,202	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153715	10,644	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153715	35,222	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153715	1,665	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153715	228	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153716	500	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153734	(7,543)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153735	1,630	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153735	124	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153735	(143)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153735	(235)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153735	(7)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153735	(1)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153755	(2,880)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153755	(20)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153755	(222)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153755	(294)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar

11/24/2025	301313153755	(520)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153755	(20)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar
11/24/2025	301313153755	(9)	Addt'l CJC grant funding and roll forward of existing unspent grar

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Board of Finance and City Council Submission Checklist

Version: April 2025

Department: CEDO Submitter: Kara Alnasrawi

Title/Subject: CJC Budget Amendment

Approval Requested:		Meeting Date:
☒	Board of Finance	12/1/2025
☒	City Council	12/15/2025
☐	Both BOF and Council	Click or tap to enter a date.

Instructions

1. This form must be completed by the person submitting the materials.
2. This form must be sent with the final submission of materials in advance of the meeting.
3. Do not indicate that a sign-off was received until it has actually been obtained.
4. Commission reports and presentations do not need to be reviewed by the CAO or Attorneys.
5. Name the reviewing Attorney or HR Manager in the Note column.

Signoff Needed	Received?	Approval Date	Note
Department Head	Yes	11/21/2025	Kara Alnasrawi
Mayor's Office	Yes	11/24/2025	Erin Jacobsen
Board/Commission	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
City Attorney's Office for memo and contracts or legal documents	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
City Attorney's Office for memo and motion(s) or resolution(s)	Yes	11/24/2025	Emmett Wood
CAO for budget, financing, and memo	Yes	11/23/2025	Katherine Schad
Human Resources, if personnel action or policy	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
CIO, if IT-related	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.

BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

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

MEMO

TO: **Burlington City Council**
FROM: **Michael Curtin – Fire Chief**
DATE: **December 15th, 2025**
SUBJECT: **Hannaford Donations**

The Burlington Fire Department was recently selected as the beneficiary of the Hannaford Community Bag Program. In this program, the Department receives a $1 donation for each $2.50 reusable Hannaford Community Bag purchased at the Hannaford store located at 1127 North Avenue in Burlington. Hannaford has previously made donations to our organization via other similar programs. These programs offer our community a way to thoughtfully reduce single-use plastic bags and, in the case of this particular donation, support our membership via a contribution toward our annual employee recognition event. These Hannaford sponsored donations are likely to exceed the $50 threshold permitted by the city's purchasing policy. In light of this, we request that the Burlington Fire Department be able to accept donations from Hannaford-sponsored programs in excess of the $50 threshold, up to a maximum amount of $500 annually.

Recommendation

The Burlington Fire Department recommends the City Council approve this donation initiative.

Motion City Council:

To approve and authorize the Burlington Fire Department to accept donations from the Hannaford Community Bag Program in a total Fiscal Year 2026 amount not to exceed $500, subject to the review and approval of the Chief Administrative Officer or designee.

Thank you for your continued support of the Burlington Fire Department.

Board of Finance and City Council Submission Checklist

Version: April 2025

Department: Burlington Fire Submitter: Michael Curtin – Fire Chief

Title/Subject: Hannaford Donation Acceptance

Approval Requested:		Meeting Date:
☐	Board of Finance	Click or tap to enter a date.
☒	City Council	12/15/2025
☐	Both BOF and Council	Click or tap to enter a date.

Instructions

1. This form must be completed by the person submitting the materials.
2. This form must be sent with the final submission of materials in advance of the meeting.
3. Do not indicate that a sign-off was received until it has actually been obtained.
4. Commission reports and presentations do not need to be reviewed by the CAO or Attorneys.
5. Name the reviewing Attorney or HR Manager in the Note column.

Signoff Needed	Received?	Approval Date	Note
Department Head	Yes	11/11/2025	Michael Curtin
Mayor's Office	Yes	12/25/2025	Erin Jacobsen
Board/Commission	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
City Attorney's Office for memo and contracts or legal documents	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
City Attorney's Office for memo and motion(s) or resolution(s)	Yes	11/11/2025	Hayley McClenahan
CAO for budget, financing, and memo	Yes	11/20/2025	Katherine Schad
Human Resources, if personnel action or policy	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
CIO, if IT-related	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.

Lori Olberg

From: Beth Royer <chitcountyclerk@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 25, 2025 4:26 PM
Subject: Chittenden County Budget Meeting Monday, December 15, 2025 @ noon

You don't often get email from chitcountyclerk@gmail.com. Learn why this is important <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Good Afternoon:

At this time the Assistant Judges are working on their plan for the Chittenden County budget for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2027.

We have scheduled our preliminary and final budget meeting.

The County will hold a preliminary Budget Meeting on Monday, December 15, 2025 at noon, at the Chittenden County Courthouse at 175 Main Street, Burlington, Vermont.

As required by law, our annual budget meeting will be held on January 21, 2026 also at noon.

I will distribute the draft budget as soon as I have it, updates may also be found here:
https://www.chittendencountycourt.org/public-meetings
<https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.chittendencountycourt.org%2fpublic-meetings&c=E,1,FnWalVuqV2SnA8C__FDrU4W-hg6zuToOojrEi39ez7_83MUhqEmPWvFRNXTJ7nuP47-T8ddYn-SGyZKU_wZo3Xe3J04bZjCQOvjCQCmzR_v02BXYJQ0l&typo=1>

Thanks,
Beth

--

Beth A. Royer (she/her)

Chittenden County Clerk

175 Main Street

Burlington, Vermont 05401

802-951-5106

chitcountyclerk@gmail.com <mailto:chitcountyclerk@gmail.com>

Lori Olberg

From: Linda <catandwildlifewelfare@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 29, 2025 7:37 PM
To: Burlington Town Clerk
Subject: Making Public Health and Welfare the Priority

You don't often get email from catandwildlifewelfare@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important
[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Please forward to the Mayor and Council. Thank you.

To the Mayor and Council,

I am writing as a result of this article...
Burlington cat fees coming for 2026 aim to curb feral cats, help birds

Burlington made a step in the right direction by implementing cat licensing. Domestic cats should be treated and managed the same as dogs. The next step should be to prohibit them from roaming... for so many important reasons. Although some residents may welcome roaming cats, this absolutely should not take precedence over those who don't. Further, cat license fees should not fund TNR (a practice that should be outlawed)... again, for so many important reasons.

As you consider how to move forward, please be aware of the following...
I can tell you in **no uncertain terms** that the practice of Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is not the solution, but part of the problem.

When you implement or permit TNR, you *increase* risks to public health. Not a single zoonotic disease is mitigated by this practice. Releasing sterilized cats and feeding them so they exist at densities beyond the environmental carrying capacity of any natural mammalian predator is neither sustainable nor effective. That simply turns an area into one giant litter box.

When you implement or permit TNR, you pass an ordinance that devalues and threatens native wildlife and environmental health. Well-fed cats are no less motivated to hunt. Domestic cats destroy billions of wild birds and small mammals every year.

When you implement or permit TNR, *you infringe on the rights of landowners*. In essence, you decide that domestic cats may roam on their property, defecate in their gardens, destroy native wild birds and backyard habitats, cause property damage, and decrease property values. We do not tolerate this for any other animal, domestic or wild. *Cats should not be permitted to free-roam whether owned or not, whether sterilized or not, whether vaccinated or not.*

When you implement or permit TNR, you are not doing anything that results in a reduction of the un-owned cat population of Burlington. Not even a little bit. Research has shown that unless more than 75% of the fertile population of a municipality is fixed *annually* (not 75% of a colony here or there), no reduction will occur. The programs that have the most resources (for example, county-wide programs in Florida and

California) did not even approach 10%. Reduction via TNR is **not** an attainable goal and colonies do not even stabilize. TNR simply serves to avoid the sad, but necessary duty of euthanasia.

The municipalities and counties that have permitted TNR typically have heard only one side of the story and have been attracted to the feel-good nature behind this insidious practice. Nonetheless, those municipalities and counties have sanctioned **the outdoor hoarding** and collecting of free-roaming un-owned cats. Consider liability.

Further, I cannot imagine that residents of Burlington would be content to live adjacent to, or in the vicinity of, someone feeding a dozen felines (sterilized or not), in addition to every rabies-vector skunk and raccoon that gets a whiff of the bounty of cat food littered on the ground or to see the landscape degraded as cat shanties are erected to attempt to 'save' an animal that is not intended to be anything other than a companion animal. TNR truly is not an act of compassion, but a self-serving endeavor that comes at the expense of everything else.

Finally, **there is no such thing as a 'community' cat**. You may have heard this term. It is a contrived term that misleads the public into thinking that domestic cats are a natural part of the landscape. They are not. Please do not inflict cat colonies onto your community.

Here are some suggestions for a good way forward.

Please see The Containment Plan by HAHF (developed by veterinarians).
https://hahf.org/our-solution/

Companion Animal Model Ordinance by American Bird Conservancy:
https://abcbirds.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/ABC-Model-Companion-Animal-Ordinance.pdf

Sincerely,
Linda Cherkassky

Lori Olberg

From: VLCT News <info@vlct.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 25, 2025 2:16 PM
To: Lori Olberg
Subject: Funding, Employee Benefits, Town Reports, and more

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

News Resources Events Advocacy Careers

Groups in VLCT's EyeMed Vision Care® vision wellness plan will enjoy stable rates through 2026. Feel free to email or call Kelley Avery if you have any questions about your group's EyeMed coverage.

Announcements & Updates

Delta Dental Rates for 2026

VLCT members in a January 1 (calendar year) dental plan can find the 2026 rates on our Group Dental Plans and Rates webpage. Please contact Kelley Avery with any questions regarding your group's VLCT dental coverage – or to learn about joining this program!

Vermont Appeals July 2025 Disaster Declaration Denial

Governor Phil Scott submitted a formal appeal of the denial of Vermont's request for a federal disaster declaration following the July 10, 2025, storm.

Next Steps for Towns Severely Affected by July 2025 Flooding

With the denial of federal assistance, what should damaged municipalities do next?

Technical Assistance for Utilities and for Community Projects

The U.S. Department of Energy is accepting applications for two of its technical assistance programs.

New Resources

Town Report Best Practices Guide

Want your town report to be more than just informative – also interesting, and perhaps inspiring? Look into this pithy guide for many noteworthy principles and ideas.

The 2025 VLCT Summary

Help residents understand the value of VLCT by including our 2025 Summary in your town report. Find links for it in both Word and PDF formats near the bottom of the About VLCT webpage.

Lori Olberg

From: ANR - ENB Administrator <ANR.ENBAdministrator@vermont.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2025 5:14 PM
To: Burlington Town Clerk
Subject: Vermont Environmental Notice Bulletin Stakeholder Update by Location

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

You are receiving this message because you have been signed up to receive email notifications via the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources' Environmental Notice Bulletin (ENB). These notifications are intended to inform you of environmental activities relevant to your town or organization based on location or activity type.

Below are current activities for which you have been signed up to receive notifications. To view the details of these activities please visit the ENB. When one or more activities that match your specific criteria is posted to ENB, you will receive a single email notification compiling the information. If you have been signed up to receive updates step-by-step throughout the review process for these activities the updates will appear in the second half of the email.

To modify the subscription, please contact the staff person listed on the individual activity page or the ENB Administrator at anr.enbadministrator@vermont.gov.

Regards,
ENB Support
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

New Activities

Activity Type	Activity/Project Name	Permit # / ID	Applicant	Town	Status
General Water Main Construction Authorization	*Water Distribution Rehabilitation – Capital Plan*	*C-4432-25.0*	*BURLINGTON DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS**	*Burlington*	*Draft Decision - Public Comment Period*
General Water Main Construction Authorization	*Water Distribution Rehabilitation – Capital Plan*	*C-4432-25.0*	*BURLINGTON DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS**	*Burlington*	*Draft Decision - Public Comment Period*

Changes to Activities I'm Following

Activity Type	Activity/Project Name	Permit # / ID	Applicant	Town	Most Recent Update	Date	Status
Air Pollution Control Minor Source Construction / Subchapter X Operating Permit	*Edlund Company LLC*	*AOP-25-007*	*Edlund Company LLC*	*Burlington*	*A draft decision for this activity has been reached and may be reviewed by visiting the ENB.*	*2025-11-26*	*Draft Decision - Public Comment Period*

Lori Olberg

From: VLCT News <info@vlct.org>
Sent: Friday, November 28, 2025 10:15 AM
To: Lori Olberg
Subject: Reminder: Funding, Employee Benefits, Town Reports, and more

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Groups in VLCT's EyeMed Vision Care® vision wellness plan will enjoy stable rates through 2026. Feel free to email or call Kelley Avery if you have any questions about your group's EyeMed coverage.

Announcements & Updates

Delta Dental Rates for 2026

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Help residents understand the value of VLCT by including our 2025 Summary in your town report. Find links for it in both Word and PDF formats near the bottom of the About VLCT webpage.

Lori Olberg

From: Act250.Essex@vermont.gov
Sent: Monday, December 1, 2025 3:11 PM
To: Mary Bourque; Act250.Legal@vermont.gov; Act250.Agenda@vermont.gov; Benjamin Traverse; Andrew Montroll; permitting@ccrpcvt.org; Act250.Essex@vermont.gov; Burlington Town Clerk; Sarah Montgomery; Lori Olberg; anr.act250@vermont.gov; barry.murphy@vermont.gov; PSD.VTDPS@vermont.gov; AOT.Act250@vermont.gov; AGR.Act250@vermont.gov; ACCD.ProjectReview@vermont.gov; kaitlin.hayes@vermont.gov
Subject: JO 4-487 Jurisdictional Opinion - City of Burlington - COS
Attachments: JO 4-487.pdf

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Attached is JO 4-487 - City of Burlington - COS.

Christine Commo | District Technician
Land Use Review Board
District 4 Environmental Commission
111 West Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452
802-879-5660
https://act250.vermont.gov

Emails and other written or recorded information produced or acquired in the course of public agency business are public records and may be subject to public examination under Vermont's Public Records Act.

Lori Olberg

From: ANR - ENB Administrator <ANR.ENBAdministrator@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 1, 2025 5:12 PM
To: Burlington Town Clerk
Subject: Vermont Environmental Notice Bulletin Stakeholder Update by Location

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Regards,
ENB Support
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

Changes to Activities I'm Following

Activity Type	Activity/Project Name	Permit # / ID	Applicant	Town	Most Recent Update	Date	Status
Air Pollution Control Minor Source Construction / Subchapter X Operating Permit	*Edlund Company LLC*	*AOP-25-007*	*Edlund Company LLC*	*Burlington*	*The administrative record set for this activity has been modified. Please visit the ENB to view the activity profile.*	*2025-12-01*	*Draft Decision - Public Comment Period*

FOR PUBLIC RECORD ONLY

Lori Olberg

From: VLCT Advocacy News <info@vlct.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 2, 2025 7:31 AM
To: Lori Olberg
Subject: VLCT's Advocacy Chat: Preview of 2026

'25 DEC 2 AM 8:04

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Preview of 2026

Tune in Monday, December 15 at 1 PM to anticipate what's in store for the 2026 legislative session. Learn from Josh Hanford, VLCT's Director of Intergovernmental Relations, and Samantha Sheehan, VLCT's Municipal Policy and Advocacy Specialist, about the progress that has been made since June on the issues that matter most to local government. Also hear what your municipal colleagues from around the state have to say about the hot topics and share your concerns and ideas for legislative action.

Register for the December 16 Preview

Join us for additional chats on the following dates.

Upcoming Chats
Monday, January 26, 2026
Monday, February 9, 2026
Monday, February 23, 2026
Monday, March 9, 2026
Monday, March 23, 2026
Monday, April 6, 2026
Monday, April 20, 2026
Monday, May 4, 2026

Click here to view this email as a web page.

Vt. League of Cities & Towns | 89 Main St. Suite 4 | Montpelier, VT 05602 US

Unsubscribe | Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Lori Olberg

From: VLCT News <info@vlct.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 9, 2025 3:49 PM
To: Lori Olberg
Subject: Assistance from PVR, TIFs for CHIP, Latest Model Procurement Policy, and more

[WARNING]: This email was sent from someone outside of the City of Burlington.

Municipal employees, officials, and their dependents who want to work or volunteer in local government can apply for a $2,000 VLCT Municipal Service Scholarship before 2/11/26.

Announcements & Updates

Updated Town Meeting Preparation Resources
Visit our Town Meeting topic page to find the broad range of resources we've made for our members. Look for our most recently updated resources: two model documents and two info sheets.

Is Your Procurement Policy Up To Date?
Federal grant requirements concerning procurement changed in October 2024. To avoid audit issues, review your procurement policy to make sure it uses our latest model.

New from PVR: Commercial Appraisal and Litigation Assistance
The Property Valuation and Review (PVR) division of the Vermont Department of Taxes has a new program to ensure the accurate and equitable assessment of high-valued and unique properties. Municipalities use an online form to request this help.

New Resources

Actions to Enable Housing Development in Your Community
This set of lists offers many simple, practical ideas for how communities of all sizes can support affordable and workforce housing.

Funding Opportunities for Enabling Housing Development
Easily find several resources that not only ease the burden of complex development tasks but also build confidence in navigating the housing process.

The 2025 VLCT Summary
Help residents understand the value of VLCT by including our 2025 Summary in your town report. Find links for it in both Word and PDF formats near the bottom of the About VLCT webpage.

CITY OF BURLINGTON

ORDINANCE _____

Sponsor: Ordinance Committee
Public Hearing Dates: _____
_____
First reading: _____
Referred to: _____
Rules suspended and placed in all stages of passage: _____
Second reading: _____
Action: _____
Date: _____
Signed by Mayor: _____
Published: _____
Effective: _____

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty-Five

An Ordinance in Relation to

TICKETING AUTHORITY FOR PARKING VIOLATIONS IN CITY PARKS

It is hereby Ordained by the City Council of the City of Burlington as follows:

That Chapter 22, Parks, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Burlington be and hereby is amended by amending Sec. 23, thereof to read as follows:

A violation of the following sections of this chapter shall be deemed a civil offense:

As written.

In addition, except as otherwise specified in subsection (g) of section 55 of chapter 20 of this code, a violation of any provision of the rules and regulations of the parks, recreation and waterfront department contained in Appendix D of this Code of Ordinances shall be deemed a civil offense. A violation of these sections or the rules and regulations shall be punishable by a civil penalty of from fifty dollars ($50.00) to five hundred dollars ($500.00). The waiver penalty for such offenses for purposes of the municipal complaint (civil ticket) shall be fifty dollars ($50.00). Each day's continued violation shall be a separate offense. The director of the parks, recreation and waterfront department, waterfront managers, city arborist, urban park rangers, seasonal operations supervisors and all law enforcement officers are authorized to issue a municipal complaint for a violation of this chapter. For the limited purpose of interim stewardship and pending completion of a long-term planning process the land known as Urban Reserve, bordered on the north by Kieslich Park, on the east by the railroad, on the west by Lake Champlain, and the south by the Community Sailing Center, shall be considered a city park subject to this chapter and the rules and regulations set forth in Appendix D.

* Material stricken out deleted.
** Material underlined added.

Office of the City Attorney

MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Burlington, Finance Board
City of Burlington, City Council

FROM: Erik Ramakrishnan, Esq.

CC: Jackie Esperti, Division Director for Parking & Traffic

DATE: December 15, 2025

SUBJECT: Ordinance amending B.C.O. § 22-23.

On December 1, 2025, the City Council adopted an ordinance amending provisions of Chapters 20 and 27 of the Burlington Code of Ordinances, regarding parking. The amendments included a new B.C.O. § 20-55(g), which reads: "Effective upon making conforming changes to Appendix D of this code, a violation of rules relating to parking set forth in said Appendix D shall constitute a violation of this section for purposes of ticketing and enforcement." The purpose of this is to facilitate Parking Services enforcement of parking rules in City parks.

The City Attorney's Office will soon be proposing appropriate edits to Appendix D to effectuate the foregoing language, but prior to doing so, staff is proposing a basic, conforming edit to B.C.O. § 22-23. Section 22-23 explains that Appendix D is enforced through municipal ticketing. The proposed amendment makes that rule subject to new Section 20-55(g), which, as indicated above, provides for enforcement of parking violations in City parks through issuance of parking enforcement tickets rather than municipal tickets.

In other words, the goal is to ensure that parking violations in parks are treated the same as parking violations elsewhere in the City. The effect of the amendment proposed here, together with the language the City Council already approved at B.C.O. § 20-55(g), as well as the pending changes to Appendix D, will be as follows:

(1) A person commits a parking violation in a City park, in violation of Appendix D.
(2) A parking services agent issues a parking ticket.
(3) The vehicle owner either pays the fine to parking services or contests the ticket by filing an administrative appeal to the City Attorney's office.
(4) If the appeal is denied, the vehicle owner either pays the ticket or appeals to the Superior Court.

Without the proposed set of amendments, the process for a parking violation in City parks will continue to be the same as the process for addressing other violations of parks rules, which entails the following steps:

(1) A municipal enforcement officer, such as a park ranger or law enforcement officer, issues a municipal ticket.

(2) The owner of the vehicle either pays the fine (based upon an established waiver amount that typically is smaller than the amount the court can order) to the Vermont Judicial Bureau or requests a hearing in the Judicial Bureau.
(3) If the Judicial Bureau hearing officer upholds the issuance of the ticket, the hearing officer sets the amount of the fine, up to a maximum set by the City's charter and ordinances.

The concern with the latter process is that it tends to be more entailed and, again, is different than the process for other parking violations.

Staff brought the proposed ordinance amending B.C.O. § 22-23 to the Ordinance Committee for review on December 5, 2025. Because the proposed change is merely a conforming edit to put in place something the City Council has already approved in B.C.O. § 20-55(g), the Committee voted 3-0, with one member absent, to sponsor the proposed amendment and to recommend that the City Council suspend the rules to place the proposed ordinance in all stages of passage.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Proposed ordinance

MOTIONS: To waive the reading of the proposed ordinance amending B.C.O. § 22-23, and to suspend the rules to place the ordinance in all stages of passage. (2/3 vote required)

Thank you for your continued support.

CITY OF BURLINGTON

ORDINANCE 5.13
Sponsor: Ordinance Committee
Public Hearing Dates: _____
_____
First reading: _____
Referred to: _____
Rules suspended and placed in all stages of passage: 12/15/25
Second reading: _____
Action: _____
Date: _____
Signed by Mayor: 12/16/25
Published: 12/17/25
Effective: 01/06/26

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty-Five

An Ordinance in Relation to

TICKETING AUTHORITY FOR PARKING VIOLATIONS IN CITY PARKS

It is hereby Ordained by the City Council of the City of Burlington as follows:

That Chapter 22, Parks, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Burlington be and hereby is amended by amending Sec. 23, thereof to read as follows:

A violation of the following sections of this chapter shall be deemed a civil offense:

As written.

In addition, except as otherwise specified in subsection (g) of section 55 of chapter 20 of this code, a violation of any provision of the rules and regulations of the parks, recreation and waterfront department contained in Appendix D of this Code of Ordinances shall be deemed a civil offense. A violation of these sections or the rules and regulations shall be punishable by a civil penalty of from fifty dollars ($50.00) to five hundred dollars ($500.00). The waiver penalty for such offenses for purposes of the municipal complaint (civil ticket) shall be fifty dollars ($50.00). Each day's continued violation shall be a separate offense. The director of the parks, recreation and waterfront department, waterfront managers, city arborist, urban park rangers, seasonal operations supervisors and all law enforcement officers are authorized to issue a municipal complaint for a violation of this chapter. For the limited purpose of interim stewardship and pending completion of a long-term planning process the land known as Urban Reserve, bordered on the north by Kieslich Park, on the east by the railroad, on the west by Lake Champlain, and the south by the Community Sailing Center, shall be considered a city park subject to this chapter and the rules and regulations set forth in Appendix D.

* Material stricken out deleted.
** Material underlined added.

ORIGINAL

AN ORDINANCE
IN RELATION TO

Ticketing Authority For Parking Violations In City Parks

Introduced by

Councilor Ordinance Committee

Read in City Council first time

_____ , 20____ .

Attest,

_____ , Clerk.

Rules suspended, and ordinance placed in all stages of passage.

December 15 , 20 25 .

Attest,

_____ , Clerk.

Read in City Council second time

_____ , 20____ .

Attest,

_____ , Clerk.

Passed in City Council at meeting held

_____ , 20____ .

Attest,

_____ , Clerk.

Approved Dec 16 , 20 25

_____ , Mayor.

I, DOF Kukenberger , City Clerk of the City of Burlington and Clerk of the City Council of said City, do hereby certify that the within written Ordinance has been duly published according to Law and the Charter of the City, and in compliance with said Charter this certificate is hereto attached.

And the within Ordinance was ordered published for Wednesday day, namely the 17th day of December , 2025 .

Adopted 12/15/25 Published 12/17/25 Effective 01/06/26

DOF , City Clerk

* * * * * * * *

Distribution

I hereby certify that this Ordinance has been sent to the following department(s) on

Attest:

* * * * * * * *

Resolution Relating to

RESOLUTION_____

Sponsor(s): Councilor Traverse
Introduced: _____
Referred to: _____
_____
Action: _____
Date: _____
Signed by Mayor: _____

RELEASE OF CERTAIN GLEBE AND PERPETUAL LEASE-LAND INTERESTS AND REVISION OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON PERPETUAL LEASE LAND INTERESTS LIST

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five……

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

That WHEREAS, on December 7, 2020, the City Council adopted a City of Burlington Retained Perpetual Lease Interests List (hereafter Retained Interests List) pursuant to Act 152 (codified in 24 V.S.A. 2409); and

WHEREAS, the City Council requested that if City staff identified properties on the Retained Interests List as appropriate for release in the future—for example, because outstanding issues are resolved,—those properties should be brought forward to the Council and the Retained Interests List should be updated; and

WHEREAS, City staff have identified a number of properties that are appropriate for release since the last release in September, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby releases the glebe/perpetual leased land interests it may have in the following City of Burlington properties pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §2401 and requests that the City of Burlington Retained Perpetual Lease Interests List be revised accordingly:

- 30 Cayuga Court (024-2-066-000)
- 50 Cottage Grove (024-2-088-000)

R: Glebe or Lease Lands/City Council Action-Resolutions/Resolution re Release of Certain Glebe Lands 12/15/25
12/15/25

CITY OF BURLINGTON RETAINED P| PERPETUAL LEASE LAND INTERESTS | LIST Last Revised 12/11/25

PropertyRSN	PIN	TaxID	Property Type	Assessor Use	Address	Address Numeric	Street	Street Type	Owner List
	313278722004	044-4-033-000	Land and Building	C	130	130	Bank	ST	Cityplace Partners, LLC
536	301961736648	024-1-002-000	Land and Building	R1	36	36	Barley	RD	Matthew J. Bombard | Emily K Bombard
768	302140736242	024-2-009-000	Land and Building	R1	77	77	Barley	RD	Ugljesa Vujanovic | Draginja Vujanovic
7156	312422721841	049-1-143-001	Land and Building	C	60	60	Battery	ST	Diamond Rock Burlington Owner LLC
809	303377735322	024-2-052-000	Land and Building	R1	41	41	Birch	CT	Huy Vo
806	303452735586	024-2-049-000	Land and Building	R1	64	64	Birch	CT	Phet Sayamouangkhua | Bouavanh Sayamouangkhua
1067	303515735610	024-4-001-000	Land and Building	R1	70	70	Birch	CT	Janice L Lovejoy
12228	303595735701	024-4-003-000	Land	RL	82	82	Birch	CT	Champlain Housing Trust Inc.
1073	303811735694	024-4-009-000	Land and Building	R1	99	99	Birch	CT	Joseph R. Guay | Wendy M. Guay
1186	303921735755	024-4-133-000	Land and Building	R1	111	111	Birch	CT	Michael F. Mcgarghan | Kelly J Mcgarghan
1174	304108736082	024-4-120-000	Land and Building	R1	128	128	Birch	CT	Robert J Larue | Marjorie W Larue
1175	304175736141	024-4-121-000	Land and Building	R1	132	132	Birch	CT	Muna Gurung | Mann Gurung
1178	304397736312	024-4-124-000	Land and Building	R1	144	144	Birch	CT	Nadia A. Mitchell | Alexander V Mitchell
8554	314400717640	053-3-195-000	Land and Building	R1	20	20	Caroline	ST	Carolyn Lamoreaux Bates Revocable Trust
8500	314463717393	053-3-140-000	Land and Building	R2	65	65	Catherine	ST	Ruby L. Thibault | Jed H Thibault | Aurelien G. Thibault
8498	314560717370	053-3-138-000	Land and Building	R1	75-77	75	Catherine	ST	Bruce W. Bierbaum | Kari Lynn Bierbaum
8497	314614717427	053-3-137-000	Land and Building	R3	83	83	Catherine	ST	Hugo Martinez-Cazon | Keith S Levenson
818	303247735059	024-2-063-000	Land and Building	R1	14	14	Cayuga	CT	Cynthia B. Button | Jon B. Button
826	303382734959	024-2-071-000	Land and Building	R1	17	17	Cayuga	CT	Scott S. Smith | Stacey R. Smith
823	303452735227	024-2-068-000	Land and Building	R1	40	40	Cayuga	CT	Mark P. Moye and Joyce Ann Howard Trust
1083	303587735324	024-4-019-000	Land and Building	R1	56	56	Cayuga	CT	Theresa M. Lacroix
1109	303757735252	024-4-050-000	Land and Building	R1	65	65	Cayuga	CT	Kevin Healy | Arlene Healy
1107	303858735329	024-4-048-000	Land and Building	R1	75	75	Cayuga	CT	Burns Wilson Dartt III | Francoise Magdalena Dartt
1105	303936735400	024-4-046-000	Land and Building	R1	81	81	Cayuga	CT	Jeffrey S Clements | Lynne C. Clements
1103	304024735477	024-4-044-000	Land and Building	R1	101	101	Cayuga	CT	James F. Burt | Vera Burt
1092	304083735699	024-4-028-000	Land and Building	R1	120	120	Cayuga	CT	Charles Eric Nichols | Anne Williams
1098	304336735722	024-4-038-000	Land and Building	R1	129	129	Cayuga	CT	Jeffrey Desautels | Tina Desautels
5329	313344722058	044-4-033-000	Land and Building	CL	75	75	Cherry	ST	Cityplace Partners, LLC
762	302209736468	024-2-003-000	Land and Building	R1	9	9	Clover	LN	Thanh Dang | Son Tran
543	302189736725	024-1-009-000	Land and Building	R1	37	37	Clover	LN	Christine M. Thompson
542	302183736792	024-1-008-000	Land and Building	R1	45	45	Clover	LN	Timothy D. Thayer | Debra Anne Thayer
4424	311724721578	043-4-001-000	Land	E	2-Jan	2	College	ST	City of Burlington - Parks Dept.
2361	302490731951	028-2-220-000	Composite	EL	8	8	College	ST	City Of Burlington - Department of Public Works
6994	311877721538	049-1-085-000	Land	EL	10	10	College	ST	City of Burlington
1934	301926734747	028-1-004-000	Land and Building	R2	98	98	Cottage	GRV	Elmira Aliyev
1675	301706734578	027-3-058-000	Land and Building	R1	128	128	Cottage	GRV	Susan Flanders Hoxie
1674	301656734537	027-3-057-000	Land and Building	R1	134	134	Cottage	GRV	Raymond F Benoit Jr
1668	301388734295	027-3-051-000	Land and Building	R1	170	170	Cottage	GRV	James Douglas Daigle
2050	303032734650	028-1-126-000	Land and Building	R1	22	22	Cross	PKWY	Roberta P. Proulx | Kelli P. LaPlant | Jennifer P. Tremblay | Joanne P. Ihlefeld
2048	302922734562	028-1-124-000	Land and Building	R1	38	38	Cross	PKWY	Levi Maynard | Kimberly Maynard
2039	302426734175	028-1-115-000	Land and Building	R1	102	102	Cross	PKWY	S. Brown Richardson | Jane D. Richardson
2038	302400734124	028-1-114-000	Land and Building	R1	108	108	Cross	PKWY	Elizabeth H. Burns | Alan Gladstone
2037	302315734089	028-1-113-000	Land and Building	R1	116	116	Cross	PKWY	Jasmin Pobric | Gordana Pobric
2035	302197734005	028-1-111-000	Land and Building	R1	130	130	Cross	PKWY	Paul Held | Susan Held
1457	300018734177	027-1-010-000	Land and Building	R1	34	34	Curtis	AVE	Tara Sullivan | Brian J. Sullivan
1468	299891734057	027-1-021-000	Land and Building	R1	35	35	Curtis	AVE	George W. Buker | Laurie A Buker
1467	299928734018	027-1-020-000	Land and Building	R1	43	43	Curtis	AVE	Paul E Sumner Jr | Laura L. Sumner
1799	300335733791	027-3-164-000	Land and Building	R1	86	86	Curtis	AVE	Fred C Forehand | Cynthia J Forehand
1800	300214733553	027-3-172-000	Land and Building	R1	121	121	Curtis	AVE	Debra Holonitch
1485	300308733403	027-3-170-000	Land and Building	R1	124	124	Curtis	AVE	Hans H. Heikel | Kathryn W. Heikel
1486	300245733355	027-3-171-000	Land and Building	R1	130	130	Curtis	AVE	Travis M. Clairmont | Gregory P. Clairmont
1487	300144733512	027-1-038-000	Land and Building	R1	135	135	Curtis	AVE	Jacqueline A. Dame Firley | David S. Firley, Jr.
1480	300013733408	027-1-040-000	Land and Building	R1	156	156	Curtis	AVE	Joshua Perrin
1479	299950733765	027-1-034-000	Land and Building	R1	187	187	Curtis	AVE	Kendrick J. Forguites
1497	299865733875	027-1-032-000	Land and Building	R2	201	201	Curtis	AVE	BPAWG, LLC
1498	299708733787	027-1-047-000	Land and Building	R1	206	206	Curtis	AVE	John P Gipson | Carolyn R Gipson
147	299532734008	027-1-051-000	Land and Building	R2	232-234	232	Curtis	AVE	Francois Nsibienakou | Nyame Nti A. Nsibienakou-Fawoho

12335	299647739370	021-2-046-000	Land and Building	R1	4	4	Derway	DR	Elizabeth V. O'Kane | Kelly J Boudreau
1095	299541739169	021-2-080-000	Land and Building	R2	21-23	21	Derway	DR	Casey J. D. Lyon | Maho Takahashi
35	304264735867	024-4-034-000	Land and Building	R1	14	14	Dorset	LN	Mary E. Barr
13	298394739590	020-4-002-000	Land and Building	R1	93	93	Elbow	ST	2751 North Miami Avenue LLC
372	298411739635	020-4-003-000	Land and Building	R1	95	95	Elbow	ST	2751 North Miami Avenue LLC
376	298305739917	020-3-004-000	Land	RL	107	107	Elbow	ST	Anthony Pellegrino | Eva M. Pellegrino
4975	300926737766	023-3-068-000	Land and Building	R1	32	32	Forest	ST	Elizabeth S. Wood
1968	301176737941	023-3-072-000	Land and Building	R1	66	66	Forest	ST	Raul Perez | Kathleen Perez
1999	313148722869	044-2-117-000	Land and Building	R1	23	23	George	ST	Rachel Green
1989	302740734591	028-1-041-000	Land and Building	R1	45	45	Green Acres	DR	Rebecca Marie Roy | Mark Edward Montalban
1980	302613734726	028-1-073-000	Land and Building	R1	46	46	Green Acres	DR	Lauren Weiner
1982	302067734294	028-1-063-000	Land and Building	R1	116	116	Green Acres	DR	Steven Smith | Kristin Smith
1659	302075734077	028-1-053-000	Land and Building	R1	129	129	Green Acres	DR	Allison Curran
1707	301791734404	027-3-042-000	Land and Building	R1	176	176	Green Acres	DR	Antonia W Simpson | Robert V Simpson
1711	301467735094	027-3-104-005	Land and Building	R1	5	5	Grey Meadow	DR	Jeffrey P Gendron | Kathleen B Gendron
1706	301314735234	027-3-104-002	Land and Building	R1	6	6	Grey Meadow	DR	Tyce C. Foltz | Kara S. Foltz
1713	301405735041	027-3-104-006	Land and Building	R1	7	7	Grey Meadow	DR	Nelson R Vargas | Susan E Beil
1739	301294734953	027-3-104-008	Land and Building	R1	15	15	Grey Meadow	DR	Scott T Fusare | Dagmar Zentrichova
1737	301235734904	027-3-104-009	Land and Building	R1	21	21	Grey Meadow	DR	James J. Chagnon | Lita M Chagnon
1735	301064735046	027-3-104-034	Land and Building	R1	24	24	Grey Meadow	DR	Arthur J. Dusablon | Barbara Dusablon
1731	300815734862	027-3-104-030	Land and Building	R1	38	38	Grey Meadow	DR	Bernard V. Bora | Denise C Bora
1724	300572734602	027-3-104-026	Land and Building	R1	56	56	Grey Meadow	DR	Sanford W. Phillips | Stephanie L. Phillips
1722	300742734398	027-3-104-023	Land and Building	R1	62	62	Grey Meadow	DR	Victor Menard | Tami Menard
67	301064734018	027-3-104-017	Land and Building	R1	74	74	Grey Meadow	DR	Catherine C. Wheeler Trust
73	299876738164	023-1-014-000	Land and Building	R1	21	21	Hardy	AVE	Lawrence A. Tulkop | Lisa M. Tulkop
74	299829738223	021-2-001-000	Land and Building	R1	29	29	Hardy	AVE	Patra S Vail
75	299647738606	021-2-007-000	Land and Building	R1	71	71	Hardy	AVE	Richard E. Dion | Faith B. Dion
77	299622738667	021-2-008-000	Land and Building	R1	77	77	Hardy	AVE	Philip Hinckley | Rosalie A. Covey
79	299594738740	021-2-009-000	Land and Building	R1	85	85	Hardy	AVE	Katherine Schumpf | Douglas J Schumpf
8426	299530738887	021-2-011-000	Land and Building	R1	101	101	Hardy	AVE	Robert K Young | Janice Young
8425	299630739037	021-2-013-000	Land and Building	R1	112	112	Hardy	AVE	Lawrence L. Blanchard | Judie A. Kreamer
8383	314404717736	053-3-067-000	Land and Building	R3	117-119	117	Howard	ST	117-119 Howard Street LLC
3617	314463717730	053-3-066-000	Land and Building	R1	121	121	Howard	ST	Jeffrey G. Schneider | Michelle C. Keegan
9016	307471727364	037-3-005-000	Land and Building	E	60	60	Institute	RD	City of Burlington - Parks Dept.
4948	308628728125	034-2-001-000	Land and Building	EL	75	75	Institute	RD	City of Burlington School Dept.
12168	315714716402	054-2-087-000	Land and Building	R1	9	9	Iranistan	RD	Karl W. Doerner | Judith M. Doerner
4859	312926723089	044-2-090-000	Land and Building	RA	17	17	Johnson	ST	1-7 Johnson Street, LLC
7196	312027721599	049-1-086-000	Land and Building	C	60	60	Lake	ST	Lake And College LLC
9011	311913721837	044-2-003-000	Land and Building	C	86	86	Lake	ST	Lake Street Associates Inc
9013	312327719230	049-2-039-000	Land and Building	E	101	101	Lavalley	LN	State of Vermont Building & General Services Dept. | Vermont State Agency of Transportation Rail Unit
9014	315258716371	054-2-082-000	Land and Building	R1	16	16	Ledge	RD	L. Josette Noll
8579	315639716371	054-2-085-000	Land and Building	R1	56-58	56	Ledge	RD	Catherine A. C. MacLachlan Trust
8575	314728717088	053-3-221-000	Land and Building	R1	38	38	Ledgemere	ST	Ila A. Abramson | Joseph A. Bluestein
8576	314724717147	053-3-220-000	Land and Building	R1	44	44	Ledgemere	ST	Margaret E Joyal
8577	314578717211	053-3-216-000	Land and Building	R1	49	49	Ledgemere	ST	Austin D. Sumner | Jennifer C. Sumner
832	314576717268	053-3-217-000	Land and Building	R1	55	55	Ledgemere	ST	Kevin S Cundiff | Charles D. Kopplin
842	314723717268	053-3-218-000	Land and Building	R1	56	56	Ledgemere	ST	Gretchen E. Hogan | Brendan P. Hogan
833	302688735119	024-2-078-000	Land and Building	R1	17	17	Loaldo	DR	Eric Gulfield
841	302581735213	024-2-096-000	Land and Building	R1	18	18	Loaldo	DR	Richard H. Yee, Jr. | Mary B. Harkin
1963	302484735139	024-2-094-000	Land and Building	R1	32	32	Loaldo	DR	Gabriel Courage | Holly Courage
1962	302377735178	024-2-092-000	Land and Building	R1	36	36	Loaldo	DR	Kenneth A Hebert | Christine A. Hebert
1960	302527734886	028-1-036-000	Land and Building	R1	51	51	Loaldo	DR	Leo P. Campbell | M. Eileen Campbell
1959	302521734809	028-1-035-000	Land and Building	R1	57	57	Loaldo	DR	Martha J Ledoux | Robert E. Ledoux
1958	302425734726	028-1-033-000	Land and Building	R2	69	69	Loaldo	DR	Patricia Anne Hollinger
1943	302376734687	028-1-032-000	Land and Building	R1	75	75	Loaldo	DR	Harvey Family Revocable Trust
1954	302333734649	028-1-031-000	Land and Building	R1	81	81	Loaldo	DR	William A. Carlson
1953	302203734748	028-1-014-000	Land and Building	R1	84	84	Loaldo	DR	Alan LeBlanc
1950	302142734498	028-1-027-000	Land and Building	R1	105	105	Loaldo	DR	Sherri L McCoy
7198	302097734461	028-1-026-000	Land and Building	R1	111	111	Loaldo	DR	Kathryn A. Newton
8583	312070720020	049-2-041-000	Land and Building	E	1	1	Maple	ST	City of Burlington - Parks Dept.

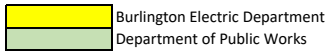
693	313297720085	049-2-001-000	Land and Building	RA	113	113	Maple	ST	Maple Street Properties, LLC
967	314811716959	053-3-224-000	Land and Building	R1	16	16	Marian	ST	Jane Merola McKenzie
964	303439736520	024-1-116-000	Land and Building	R1	4	4	Meridian	ST	Jessica Savage | Damon Savage
4920	303607736669	024-3-026-000	Land and Building	R1	28	28	Meridian	ST	Mustafa Jusupovic | Amira Jusupovic
3619	312865723126	044-2-062-000	Land and Building	RA	58-64	58	Monroe	ST	Marijos Properties
2004	312876722913	044-2-070-000	Land and Building	R4	61-63	61	Monroe	ST	Carl F. Albarelli
827	308917726980	038-1-002-000	Cemetery	E	455	455	North	AVE	Burlington City Cemetery Dept. | Lake View Cemetery
814	303250734902	028-1-078-000	Land and Building	R1	1464	1464	North	AVE	Migmar Dolma
830	303068734920	024-2-072-000	Land and Building	R2	1477	1477	North	AVE	John Whitehouse Revocable Trust
899	303097735140	024-2-058-000	Land and Building	R1	1490	1490	North	AVE	Sharon L. Fosbrook
831	302757734982	024-2-075-000	Land and Building	RA	1501	1501	North	AVE	Salamin Handy | Mountaha Handy
848	302760735193	024-2-077-000	Land and Building	R1	1519	1519	North	AVE	Elizabeth Jane Fitzpatrick
792	302609735366	024-2-100-000	Land and Building	C	1541	1541	North	AVE	Thunderbolt Garage LLC
791	302538735400	024-2-102-000	Land	RL	1547	1547	North	AVE	Jolley Associates
789	303094735926	024-2-033-000	Rental Land	E	1554	1554	North	AVE	BHA Franklin Square
870	302612735734	024-2-030-000	Rental Land	E	1562	1562	North	AVE	Burlington Housing Authority
786	302372735591	024-2-127-000	Land and Building	C	1563	1563	North	AVE	Sisters & Brothers Investment Group, LLP
885	302280735657	024-2-128-000	Land and Building	R2	1571	1571	North	AVE	Lisa McLamb
783	302362735872	024-2-027-000	Land and Building	R1	1586	1586	North	AVE	Erin Cushing | Joshua Cushing
12273	302163735806	024-2-143-000	Land and Building	R1	1595	1595	North	AVE	John R Fisher | Kathleen C. Fisher
779	302235735997	024-2-024-000	Land and Building	R1	1604	1604	North	AVE	Ginger J. Santor
778	302193736040	024-2-023-000	Land	RL	1610	1610	North	AVE	Champlain Housing Trust Inc.
511	302070736171	024-2-020-000	Land and Building	R1	1628	1628	North	AVE	Mary Lariviere
775	302029736215	024-2-019-000	Land and Building	R1	1634	1634	North	AVE	Simone M. Felty
529	301474736078	023-4-038-000	Land and Building	E	1645	1645	North	AVE	City of Burlington School Dept.
528	301904736343	024-2-016-000	Land and Building	R1	1652	1652	North	AVE	Hien Nguyen | Phuong Chung
369	301761736459	023-4-056-000	Land and Building	R1	1670	1670	North	AVE	Francis J Fagga Jr | Anne G Fagga
354	301722736500	023-4-055-000	Land and Building	R1	1676	1676	North	AVE	Terrence G. Moore | Carol J. Moore
368	300740737598	023-3-065-000	Land and Building	R1	1922	1922	North	AVE	Elizabeth S. Lewis
353	300361737619	023-3-049-000	Land and Building	RA	1925	1925	North	AVE	New Northgate Housing, LLC
366	300696737649	023-3-064-000	Land and Building	R1	1928	1928	North	AVE	Kenneth Gokey
362	300549737529	023-3-048-000	Land and Building	R1	1929	1929	North	AVE	Leah A. Oklan | Ezra Oklan
360	300604737753	023-3-062-000	Land and Building	R1	1942	1942	North	AVE	Denny Lee Johnson | Christine H. Johnson
359	300537737842	023-3-057-000	Land and Building	R1	1954	1954	North	AVE	Brent Huff | Nicole Huff
123	300432738027	023-3-054-000	Land and Building	R1	1976	1976	North	AVE	Jeannine Kneeland
99	300168738517	021-2-058-000	Land and Building	R1	2040	2040	North	AVE	Amylynn Streeter | David H. Streeter
121	300154738592	021-2-057-000	Land and Building	R1	2044	2044	North	AVE	Rama Lakshmi Courcy | Charles P. Courcy
101	299972738571	021-2-033-000	Land and Building	R1	2047	2047	North	AVE	Thomas M Leclair | Jody A Leclair
118	300132738657	021-2-056-000	Land and Building	R1	2048	2048	North	AVE	Robert Lapointe
103	299905738701	021-2-035-000	Land and Building	R1	2061	2061	North	AVE	Gary D. Dion | Linda D. Dion
114	300064738860	021-2-053-000	Land and Building	R1	2070	2070	North	AVE	Alfred Cyr III | Cherie K Cyr
64	299852738831	021-2-037-000	Land and Building	R1	2075	2075	North	AVE	Tory-Ann Torres | Luis Torres
11	298595739779	021-2-065-000	Land and Building	R1	3130	3130	North	AVE	P Maria Spadanuda
41	298501739747	021-2-066-000	Land	RL	3135	3135	North	AVE	2751 North Miami Avenue LLC
25	298438739892	020-3-001-000	Land and Building	R1	3139	3139	North	AVE	Sandra A Labombard | Todd M Labombard
22	298528739922	021-1-002-000	Land and Building	ML	3140	3140	North	AVE	Todd M Labombard | Tina M. Tofani | Irena H Labombard
4702	298469740063	020-3-019-000	Land and Building	R1	3152	3152	North	AVE	Tor D. Bortz | Lorena K. Bortz
4701	298378740302	020-3-015-000	Land and Building	R1	3174	3174	North	AVE	Treehouse Garage LLC
4700	312299724080	044-1-255-000	Land and Building	R2	87	87	North	ST	PHE, INC
4699	312335724076	044-1-254-000	Land and Building	E	89	89	North	ST	Burlington Emergency Shelter Inc
32	312380724053	044-1-253-000	Land and Building	CR	93-97	93	North	ST	3G LLC
4776	298293740997	020-3-029-000	Land	EL	0	0	North Avenue	EXT	City of Burlington - Parks Dept.
4782	312713722677	044-2-019-000	Rental Land and Building	E	20-Oct	10	North Champlain	ST	Burlington Housing Authority
59	312439723683	044-1-310-000	Land and Building	CR	99	99	North Champlain	ST	Erkson Real Estate LLC
60	312478723958	044-1-316-000	Land and Building	R1	125	125	North Champlain	ST	Martha J. Caswell | Seth Wolcott-MacCausland
61	298854740073	021-1-027-000	Land and Building	R1	40	40	North Cove	RD	Robert Bristow-Johnson | Phyllis Bristow-Johnson
12123	298848740167	021-1-030-000	Land and Building	R2	50	50	North Cove	RD	Gabriel Handy
53	298852740449	021-1-031-000	Land	RL	52	52	North Cove	RD	Timothy A. Muir | Frances D. Muir
50	298633740466	021-1-019-000	Land and Building	ML	94	94	North Cove	RD	Jessica Hamel | Perry Owens
461	298509740501	000-0-000-000	Land	X	99	99	North Cove	RD	Guy L. Southwell

2085	300949737976	023-3-160-001	Land and Building	R1	67	67	North View	DR	David C Francis | Donna Powell
4900	301950733803	028-1-165-000	Land and Building	R1	50	50	Oakland	TER	George H Cootey | Gail M Cootey
4753	301788733928	027-3-039-000	Land and Building	R1	74	74	Oakland	TER	Joanne Kalisz
4747	312264723375	044-2-043-000	Land and Building	R1	66	66	Park	ST	Malcolm M. Sanders
4745	312288723481	044-1-307-000	Land and Building	R2	76	76	Park	ST	James Design Build (John J. Burns)
4744	312278723743	044-1-301-000	Land and Building	RA	102	102	Park	ST	102 Park Street LLC
12282	312268723841	044-1-299-000	Land and Building	R1	112	112	Park	ST	Stephen Smith | Carmen Smith
12283	312265723882	044-1-298-000	Land and Building	R2	116	116	Park	ST	Adam H. Holmes
4878	312267723949	044-1-296-000	Land	RL	124	124	Park	ST	Champlain Housing Trust Inc.
4879	312262723992	044-1-295-000	Land	RL	128	128	Park	ST	Champlain Housing Trust Inc.
4881	312963722733	044-2-021-000	Land and Building	CR	68	68	Pearl	ST	68 Pearl Street LLC
4942	313046722741	044-2-022-000	Land	EL	70	70	Pearl	ST	City Of Burlington - Department of Public Works
12732	313106722710	044-2-023-000	Rental Land and Building	CR	80-90	80	Pearl	ST	Josephine Bernardini Bove | Richard J. Bove Jr.
7166	312857723305	044-2-084-000	Land and Building	R2	21	21	Peru	ST	BPJS Management LLC
7168	313163721587	049-1-125-000	Condo Land and Building	CC	84	84	Pine	ST	84 Pine Street Association
7169	313229719975	049-2-007-000	Land and Building	R2	220	220	Pine	ST	Nicholas S. Papaseraphim | Deanna Papaseraphim
7171	313222719880	049-2-009-000	Land and Building	R3	230	230	Pine	ST	Chris Khamnei
892	313233719823	049-2-010-000	Land and Building	R1	234	234	Pine	ST	Diana L Doll
893	313253719593	049-2-013-000	Land and Building	C	266	266	Pine	ST	Pine Properties LLC
546	302324736305	024-2-150-000	Land and Building	R1	68	68	Plattsburg	AVE	Mariah Ogden
547	302314736369	024-2-151-000	Land and Building	R1	76	76	Plattsburg	AVE	Abi N. Chamlagi | Mon M. Chamlagai
1788	302293736626	024-1-013-000	Land and Building	R1	100	100	Plattsburg	AVE	Michael E. Cornell | Mary E. Cornell
1744	302288736683	024-1-014-000	Land and Building	R1	104	104	Plattsburg	AVE	Kristina Wood | Tyler Rouille
1787	300280734501	027-3-159-000	Land and Building	R1	21	21	Pleasant	AVE	Merima Elkaz
1784	300386734578	027-3-109-000	Land and Building	R1	22	22	Pleasant	AVE	Maureen K. Linsenmeir
1781	300336734438	027-3-158-000	Land and Building	R1	29	29	Pleasant	AVE	Margaret B Bombard | Stephen Hadeka
1751	300502734240	027-3-154-000	Land and Building	R1	55	55	Pleasant	AVE	Boris Katsnelson | Marina Katsnelson
1778	300762734134	027-3-117-000	Land and Building	R1	80	80	Pleasant	AVE	David P Devoid | Jacqueline C. Devoid
1761	300699733692	027-3-124-000	Land and Building	R1	134	134	Pleasant	AVE	Cynthia A Warwick | Jason F. Seiler
1766	300523733869	027-3-127-000	Land and Building	R1	156	156	Pleasant	AVE	Thomas O. Ross | Mary M. Ross
1771	300389734256	027-3-140-000	Land and Building	R1	195	195	Pleasant	AVE	Meghan Fay-Mccaffrey | Liam P Mccaffrey
288	300267734171	027-3-133-000	Land and Building	R1	198	198	Pleasant	AVE	Deborah L. Clemons
7227	300334734323	027-3-139-000	Land and Building	R1	203	203	Pleasant	AVE	Richard W. Hanzel Trust (Richard W. Hanzel)
7563	300444738520	021-4-001-000	Land and Building	R1	40	40	River View	DR	Karen J Anderson
7562	313396721479	049-3-017-000	Land and Building	C	95	95	Saint Paul	ST	Investors Corporation of Vermont
8403	313439719772	049-4-045-000	Land	RL	237-241	237	Saint Paul	ST	Stephen W. Conant | Margaret C. Conant
8401	313497719645	049-4-044-000	Land and Building	C	249	249	Saint Paul	ST	Carrie Ann Rockwood | Todd M. Rockwood
8400	314532717779	053-3-044-000	Land and Building	CR	463-465	463	Saint Paul	ST	Alan R. Longe | Pamela B. Longe
8386	314572717680	053-3-042-000	Land and Building	RA	469	469	Saint Paul	ST	Gisele J. Fontaine Family Trust (Gisele J. Fontaine)
8397	314606717643	053-3-041-000	Land and Building	R3	475-477	475	Saint Paul	ST	Yee Properties LLC
8391	314805717706	053-3-027-000	Land and Building	R4	484-486	484	Saint Paul	ST	Four Eighty Four St Paul St, LLC
8395	314700717391	053-3-038-000	Land and Building	R3	507	507	Saint Paul	ST	Amanda H. Goossen | Daniel Goossen
8755	314973717440	053-3-032-000	Land and Building	R1	516	516	Saint Paul	ST	Mathew Viens | Johnnie McLaughlin
8392	314811717342	053-3-036-000	Land and Building	R1	517	517	Saint Paul	ST	Bryan A. Mihok
8754	314880717150	053-3-033-000	Land and Building	R1	539	539	Saint Paul	ST	David M. Buffington | Meriedith A. Coeyman
8841	315081717216	054-1-004-000	Land and Building	R3	540	540	Saint Paul	ST	LBC 515 & 540, LLC
8843	314915717029	054-1-001-000	Land and Building	RA	567	567	Saint Paul	ST	Sisters & Brothers Investment Group, LLP
8844	315211717046	054-1-077-000	Land and Building	R1	4	4	Shelburne	ST	Terrance A. McGrath | Timothy L. McGrath
4892	315224716923	054-1-080-000	Land and Building	R1	14	14	Shelburne	ST	Kevin F. Quirino | James J. Elias
675	315177716626	054-2-014-000	Land and Building	C	44	44	Shelburne	ST	Mary S. Burns Trust
10100	303097737144	024-1-098-000	Land and Building	R1	12	12	Sky	DR	Earl J. Babcock, Jr.
8768	303251737123	024-1-100-000	Land and Building	R1	24	24	Sky	DR	Sylvia J Bernardina
8763	318700717168	058-3-001-000	Land and Building	C	568	568	South Prospect	ST	Burlington Country Club Corp.
8762	314984717720	054-1-015-000	Land and Building	R1	467	467	South Union	ST	Rachel L. Morton Trust
8835	315058717420	054-1-010-000	Land and Building	R1	493	493	South Union	ST	Peter Keating | Kathleen Keating
8760	315072717368	054-1-009-000	Land and Building	R1	499	499	South Union	ST	George L. Shelley IV | Rachel W. Shelley
8836	315281717323	054-1-071-000	Land and Building	R3	508-510	508	South Union	ST	506-510 S Union LLC
8837	315226717276	054-1-072-000	Land and Building	R2	512	512	South Union	ST	Mary B. Hennessy
8758	315094717225	054-1-006-000	Land and Building	R1	515	515	South Union	ST	515 South Union Street-540 Saint Paul Street, LLC
7935	315220717219	054-1-073-000	Land and Building	R2	516-518	516	South Union	ST	William T. McGrath Jr. | Mcgrath Income Only Trust

8865	315108717174	054-1-005-000	Land and Building	RA	525-527	525	South Union	ST	Alain W. Brunet
8862	315665718448	054-1-102-000	Land and Building	R1	405	405	South Willard	ST	Northeastern Family Institute Of Vermont Inc.
8869	315581718256	054-1-100-000	Land and Building	R1	425	425	South Willard	ST	Ann Kelly | Kristin Kelly
8871	315540718188	054-1-099-000	Land and Building	R1	429	429	South Willard	ST	William Mares | Christine Hadsel
8850	315795718100	054-1-106-000	Land and Building	R1	436	436	South Willard	ST	Jane A. Smith 2011 Revocable Trust
8848	315726717952	054-1-108-000	Land and Building	R1	452	452	South Willard	ST	Guido Mase | Anne Kathleen Dougherty
8946	315291717084	054-1-084-000	Land and Building	R2	543	543	South Willard	ST	Michael L. Richards
1507	315300716530	054-2-015-000	Land and Building	E	600	600	South Willard	ST	Greek Orthodox Church
1535	297948733336	027-1-061-035	Land and Building	S1	2	2	Starr Farm	BC	Daniel M. Boardman Trust
1534	298064733663	027-1-061-050	Land and Building	S1	5	5	Starr Farm	BC	Edward H. Starr | Robin Robertson Starr
1503	298679733994	027-1-061-175	Land and Building	S1	9	9	Starr Farm	BC	Thomas W Dowe Jr | Leslie E. Twitchell | Elizabeth A. Dowe | Kelly Dowe Engelman
1518	298928734405	027-1-056-000	Land and Building	S1	13	13	Starr Farm	BC	W. Philip Wagner Revocable Trust | Barbara E. Wagner Revocable Trust
1520	298245734244	027-1-061-065	Land and Building	S1	15	15	Starr Farm	BC	Katherine P. Pond | Patrick S. Robins
1523	298537734316	027-1-061-090	Land and Building	S1	19	19	Starr Farm	BC	Gerald L Curley | Laura C Curley
1522	298786734414	027-1-061-100	Land and Building	S1	21	21	Starr Farm	BC	Paul R. Sisson
1526	298981734539	027-1-061-115	Land and Building	S1	23	23	Starr Farm	BC	Richard H. Wiemann
1536	298899734639	027-1-061-110	Land and Building	S1	24	24	Starr Farm	BC	Kenneth R. Lee | Kathleen P. Lee
501	299373735397	027-1-061-180	Land and Building	S1	34	34	Starr Farm	BC	Denis O'Brien | Isela M O'Brien
502	301479735575	023-4-026-000	Land	CL	43	43	Starr Farm	RD	John J. Flynn Estate
506	300858735154	023-4-029-000	Land and Building	R1	151	151	Starr Farm	RD	Marina C. Collins
507	300777735004	023-4-032-000	Land and Building	R1	167	167	Starr Farm	RD	Allen L. Barr Jr. | Mary E. Barr
508	300679735022	023-4-033-000	Land and Building	R1	173	173	Starr Farm	RD	Daniel Elliott | Joanna Elliott
1705	300625734986	023-4-034-000	Land and Building	R1	179	179	Starr Farm	RD	Neal Bernard Hayes Jr | Nikki Lee Hayes
1741	300562734939	023-4-035-000	Land and Building	R1	187	187	Starr Farm	RD	Caroline M. Rudd
595	300477734780	027-3-103-000	Land and Building	R1	201	201	Starr Farm	RD	Ted Jacobites
592	300430734716	027-3-105-000	Land and Building	R1	207	207	Starr Farm	RD	Maurice A. Paquette | Karen M Paquette
589	302949736960	024-1-063-000	Land and Building	R1	87	87	Sunset	DR	Norma C. Brunelle
689	303070736795	024-1-061-000	Land and Building	R1	109	109	Sunset	DR	Thaddeus Zabiegalski | Frances Zabiegalski
898	303109736727	024-1-060-000	Land and Building	R1	117	117	Sunset	DR	Andrew E. Potter | Meagan G. Potter
850	303315736735	024-1-112-000	Land and Building	R1	126	126	Sunset	DR	Mary A. Perry | Joan G. Perry | Judith B. Bailey
851	303299736401	024-2-157-000	Land and Building	R1	151	151	Sunset	DR	Yolanda Flores
853	302428735423	024-2-104-000	Land and Building	R1	13	13	Tracy	DR	Neil Guilmette | Michelle Guilmette
1681	302371735380	024-2-105-000	Land and Building	R1	19	19	Tracy	DR	Michelle Valiquette | John J. Valiquette Jr.
1683	301514734657	027-3-069-000	Land and Building	R1	131	131	Tracy	DR	Hue Thi Nguyen | Tuan Nguyen
1684	301438734640	027-3-071-000	Land and Building	R1	139	139	Tracy	DR	Liam N. Page
1688	301386734597	027-3-073-000	Land and Building	R1	145	145	Tracy	DR	Debra A. LeBlanc
553	301107734379	027-3-083-000	Land and Building	R1	181	181	Tracy	DR	Margaret Poulin | Kirk Poulin | Robin A. Smith | Laura J. Blaise | Rebecca L. Richardson
12655	302040736842	024-1-020-000	Land and Building	R1	37	37	Turf	RD	Jay P. Bessette | Diem T. Ha
662	303063737772	024-1-078-000	Condo Land	RC	1	1	Valade	ST	Valade Park Condo Association
663	303195737405	024-1-084-000	Land and Building	R1	42	42	Venus	AVE	Harvey C. Allard Jr. | Margaret M Allard
665	303276737383	024-1-085-000	Land and Building	R1	46	46	Venus	AVE	Ziyu Fang
950	303507737147	024-3-012-000	Land and Building	R1	77	77	Venus	AVE	Macie Sicard | Brian Sicard
873	303733737206	024-3-016-000	Land and Building	R1	94	94	Venus	AVE	John F K Rouille | Mary R Rouille
881	303700737029	024-3-009-000	Land and Building	R1	101	101	Venus	AVE	Muaz Omanovic | Kija Omanovic
492	302132735650	024-2-131-000	Land and Building	R1	19	19	West	RD	Richard Sener | Karen J. Sener
491	301910735636	024-2-139-000	Land and Building	R1	38	38	West	RD	Gina A. Scafa
1631	301501735308	023-4-018-000	Land and Building	R1	90	90	West	RD	Joshua Farley | Andrea Farley
12221	301575735164	023-4-015-000	Land and Building	R1	95	95	West	RD	Heinrich Savelberg | Christina T. Savelberg | Casandra C. Savelberg
12222	301521733604	027-3-014-000	Land and Building	R1	66	66	Western	AVE	Kimberly Ann Hunt | Alexander T. Messinger
463	300746737816	023-3-061-000	Land	RL	19	19	Woods	ST	Champlain Housing Trust Inc.
1626	300686738042	023-3-164-000	Land and Building	R1	40	40	Woods	ST	First United Methodist Church of Burlington VT
1625	301216733969	027-3-031-000	Land and Building	R1	10	10	York	DR	Roland A Dion | Gail A Dion
1650	301364733886	027-3-009-000	Land and Building	R1	15	15	York	DR	Kim M. Palasits
	301438733948	027-3-008-000	Land and Building	R1	29	29	York	DR	Steven R. Benoit | Jean M. Benoit
*Properties on	301447734149	027-3-033-000	Land and Building	R1	38	38	York	DR	Kendra Barber | Israel Smith

LEGEND:

	Department of Permitting & Inspections--Trades Division
	Department of Permitting & Inspections--Housing Division
	Department of Permitting & Inpections--Zoning Division
	Burlington Public Works--Water Resources


Burlington Electric Department
Department of Public Works

Resolution Relating to

RELEASE OF CERTAIN GLEBE AND PERPETUAL LEASE-LAND INTERESTS AND REVISION OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON PERPETUAL LEASE LAND INTERESTS LIST

RESOLUTION 5.14
Sponsor(s): Councilor Traverse
Introduced: 12/15/25
Referred to: _____
_____
Action: adopted
Date: 12/15/25
Signed by Mayor: 12/16/25

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

That WHEREAS, on December 7, 2020, the City Council adopted a City of Burlington Retained Perpetual Lease Interests List (hereafter Retained Interests List) pursuant to Act 152 (codified in 24 V.S.A. 2409); and

WHEREAS, the City Council requested that if City staff identified properties on the Retained Interests List as appropriate for release in the future—for example, because outstanding issues are resolved,—those properties should be brought forward to the Council and the Retained Interests List should be updated; and

WHEREAS, City staff have identified a number of properties that are appropriate for release since the last release in September, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby releases the glebe/perpetual leased land interests it may have in the following City of Burlington properties pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §2401 and requests that the City of Burlington Retained Perpetual Lease Interests List be revised accordingly:

- 30 Cayuga Court (024-2-066-000)
- 50 Cottage Grove (024-2-088-000)

R: Glebe or Lease Lands/City Council Action-Resolutions/Resolution re Release of Certain Glebe Lands 12/15/25
12/15/25

* * * * * * * * * * * * * *

ORIGINAL

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution has been sent to the following department(s) on

City Attorney's Office, Shay Brunvald

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

Release Of Certain Glebe And Perpetual Lease-Land Interests And Revision Of The City Of Burlington Perpetual Lease Land Interests List

Adopted by the City Council

December 15, 2025

Clerk

Approved Dec 16, 2025

Mayor

Vol. ..... Page .....

Attest:

Lori Olberg
Council and Licensing Coordinator

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CITY OF BURLINGTON RETAINED P PERPETUAL LEASE LAND INTERESTS | LIST Last Revised 12/11/25

PropertyRSN	PIN	TaxID	Property Type	Assessor Use	Address	Address Numeric	Street	Street Type	Owner List
	313278722004	044-4-033-000	Land and Building	C	130	130	Bank	ST	Cityplace Partners, LLC
536	301961736648	024-1-002-000	Land and Building	R1	36	36	Barley	RD	Matthew J. Bombard | Emily K Bombard
768	302140736242	024-2-009-000	Land and Building	R1	77	77	Barley	RD	Ugljesa Vujanovic | Draginja Vujanovic
7156	312422721841	049-1-143-001	Land and Building	C	60	60	Battery	ST	Diamond Rock Burlington Owner LLC
809	303377735322	024-2-052-000	Land and Building	R1	41	41	Birch	CT	Huy Vo
806	303452735586	024-2-049-000	Land and Building	R1	64	64	Birch	CT	Phet Sayamouangkhua | Bouavanh Sayamouangkhua
1067	303515735610	024-4-001-000	Land and Building	R1	70	70	Birch	CT	Janice L Lovejoy
12228	303595735701	024-4-003-000	Land	RL	82	82	Birch	CT	Champlain Housing Trust Inc.
1073	303811735694	024-4-009-000	Land and Building	R1	99	99	Birch	CT	Joseph R. Guay | Wendy M. Guay
1186	303921735755	024-4-133-000	Land and Building	R1	111	111	Birch	CT	Michael F. Mcgarghan | Kelly J Mcgarghan
1174	304108736082	024-4-120-000	Land and Building	R1	128	128	Birch	CT	Robert J Larue | Marjorie W Larue
1175	304175736141	024-4-121-000	Land and Building	R1	132	132	Birch	CT	Muna Gurung | Mann Gurung
1178	304397736312	024-4-124-000	Land and Building	R1	144	144	Birch	CT	Nadia A. Mitchell | Alexander V Mitchell
8554	314400717640	053-3-195-000	Land and Building	R1	20	20	Caroline	ST	Carolyn Lamoreaux Bates Revocable Trust
8500	314463717393	053-3-140-000	Land and Building	R2	65	65	Catherine	ST	Ruby L. Thibault | Jed H Thibault | Aurelien G. Thibault
8498	314560717370	053-3-138-000	Land and Building	R1	75-77	75	Catherine	ST	Bruce W. Bierbaum | Kari Lynn Bierbaum
8497	314614717427	053-3-137-000	Land and Building	R3	83	83	Catherine	ST	Hugo Martinez-Cazon | Keith S Levenson
818	303247735059	024-2-063-000	Land and Building	R1	14	14	Cayuga	CT	Cynthia B. Button | Jon B. Button
826	303382734959	024-2-071-000	Land and Building	R1	17	17	Cayuga	CT	Scott S. Smith | Stacey R. Smith
823	303452735227	024-2-068-000	Land and Building	R1	40	40	Cayuga	CT	Mark P. Moye and Joyce Ann Howard Trust
1083	303587735324	024-4-019-000	Land and Building	R1	56	56	Cayuga	CT	Theresa M. Lacroix
1109	303757735252	024-4-050-000	Land and Building	R1	65	65	Cayuga	CT	Kevin Healy | Arlene Healy
1107	303858735329	024-4-048-000	Land and Building	R1	75	75	Cayuga	CT	Burns Wilson Dartt III | Francoise Magdalena Dartt
1105	303936735400	024-4-046-000	Land and Building	R1	81	81	Cayuga	CT	Jeffrey S Clements | Lynne C. Clements
1103	304024735477	024-4-044-000	Land and Building	R1	101	101	Cayuga	CT	James F. Burt | Vera Burt
1092	304083735699	024-4-028-000	Land and Building	R1	120	120	Cayuga	CT	Charles Eric Nichols | Anne Williams
1098	304336735722	024-4-038-000	Land and Building	R1	129	129	Cayuga	CT	Jeffrey Desautels | Tina Desautels
5329	313344722058	044-4-033-000	Land and Building	CL	75	75	Cherry	ST	Cityplace Partners, LLC
762	302209736468	024-2-003-000	Land and Building	R1	9	9	Clover	LN	Thanh Dang | Son Tran
543	302189736725	024-1-009-000	Land and Building	R1	37	37	Clover	LN	Christine M. Thompson
542	302183736792	024-1-008-000	Land and Building	R1	45	45	Clover	LN	Timothy D. Thayer | Debra Anne Thayer
4424	311724721578	043-4-001-000	Land	E	2-Jan	2	College	ST	City of Burlington - Parks Dept.
2361	302490731951	028-2-220-000	Composite	EL	8	8	College	ST	City Of Burlington - Department of Public Works
6994	311877721538	049-1-085-000	Land	EL	10	10	College	ST	City of Burlington
1934	301926734747	028-1-004-000	Land and Building	R2	98	98	Cottage	GRV	Elmira Aliyev
1675	301706734578	027-3-058-000	Land and Building	R1	128	128	Cottage	GRV	Susan Flanders Hoxie
1674	301656734537	027-3-057-000	Land and Building	R1	134	134	Cottage	GRV	Raymond F Benoit Jr
1668	301388734295	027-3-051-000	Land and Building	R1	170	170	Cottage	GRV	James Douglas Daigle
2050	303032734650	028-1-126-000	Land and Building	R1	22	22	Cross	PKWY	Roberta P. Proulx | Kelli P. LaPlant | Jennifer P. Tremblay | Joanne P. Ihlefeld
2048	302922734562	028-1-124-000	Land and Building	R1	38	38	Cross	PKWY	Levi Maynard | Kimberly Maynard
2039	302426734175	028-1-115-000	Land and Building	R1	102	102	Cross	PKWY	S. Brown Richardson | Jane D. Richardson
2038	302400734124	028-1-114-000	Land and Building	R1	108	108	Cross	PKWY	Elizabeth H. Burns | Alan Gladstone
2037	302315734089	028-1-113-000	Land and Building	R1	116	116	Cross	PKWY	Jasmin Pobric | Gordana Pobric
2035	302197734005	028-1-111-000	Land and Building	R1	130	130	Cross	PKWY	Paul Held | Susan Held
1457	300018734177	027-1-010-000	Land and Building	R1	34	34	Curtis	AVE	Tara Sullivan | Brian J. Sullivan
1468	299891734057	027-1-021-000	Land and Building	R1	35	35	Curtis	AVE	George W. Buker | Laurie A Buker
1467	299928734018	027-1-020-000	Land and Building	R1	43	43	Curtis	AVE	Paul E Sumner Jr | Laura L. Sumner
1799	300335733791	027-3-164-000	Land and Building	R1	86	86	Curtis	AVE	Fred C Forehand | Cynthia J Forehand
1800	300214733553	027-3-172-000	Land and Building	R1	121	121	Curtis	AVE	Debra Holonitch
1485	300308733403	027-3-170-000	Land and Building	R1	124	124	Curtis	AVE	Hans H. Heikel | Kathryn W. Heikel
1486	300245733355	027-3-171-000	Land and Building	R1	130	130	Curtis	AVE	Travis M. Clairmont | Gregory P. Clairmont
1487	300144733512	027-1-038-000	Land and Building	R1	135	135	Curtis	AVE	Jacqueline A. Dame Firley | David S. Firley, Jr.
1480	300013733408	027-1-040-000	Land and Building	R1	156	156	Curtis	AVE	Joshua Perrin
1479	299950733765	027-1-034-000	Land and Building	R1	187	187	Curtis	AVE	Kendrick J. Forguites
1497	299865733875	027-1-032-000	Land and Building	R2	201	201	Curtis	AVE	BPAWG, LLC
1498	299708733787	027-1-047-000	Land and Building	R1	206	206	Curtis	AVE	John P Gipson | Carolyn R Gipson
147	299532734008	027-1-051-000	Land and Building	R2	232-234	232	Curtis	AVE	Francois Nsibienakou | Nyame Nti A. Nsibienakou-Fawoho

12335	299647739370	021-2-046-000	Land and Building	R1	4	4	Derway	DR	Elizabeth V. O'Kane | Kelly J Boudreau
1095	299541739169	021-2-080-000	Land and Building	R2	21-23	21	Derway	DR	Casey J. D. Lyon | Maho Takahashi
35	304264735867	024-4-034-000	Land and Building	R1	14	14	Dorset	LN	Mary E. Barr
13	298394739590	020-4-002-000	Land and Building	R1	93	93	Elbow	ST	2751 North Miami Avenue LLC
372	298411739635	020-4-003-000	Land and Building	R1	95	95	Elbow	ST	2751 North Miami Avenue LLC
376	298305739917	020-3-004-000	Land	RL	107	107	Elbow	ST	Anthony Pellegrino | Eva M. Pellegrino
4975	300926737766	023-3-068-000	Land and Building	R1	32	32	Forest	ST	Elizabeth S. Wood
1968	301176737941	023-3-072-000	Land and Building	R1	66	66	Forest	ST	Raul Perez | Kathleen Perez
1999	313148722869	044-2-117-000	Land and Building	R1	23	23	George	ST	Rachel Green
1989	302740734591	028-1-041-000	Land and Building	R1	45	45	Green Acres	DR	Rebecca Marie Roy | Mark Edward Montalban
1980	302613734726	028-1-073-000	Land and Building	R1	46	46	Green Acres	DR	Lauren Weiner
1982	302067734294	028-1-063-000	Land and Building	R1	116	116	Green Acres	DR	Steven Smith | Kristin Smith
1659	302075734077	028-1-053-000	Land and Building	R1	129	129	Green Acres	DR	Allison Curran
1707	301791734404	027-3-042-000	Land and Building	R1	176	176	Green Acres	DR	Antonia W Simpson | Robert V Simpson
1711	301467735094	027-3-104-005	Land and Building	R1	5	5	Grey Meadow	DR	Jeffrey P Gendron | Kathleen B Gendron
1706	301314735234	027-3-104-002	Land and Building	R1	6	6	Grey Meadow	DR	Tyce C. Foltz | Kara S. Foltz
1713	301405735041	027-3-104-006	Land and Building	R1	7	7	Grey Meadow	DR	Nelson R Vargas | Susan E Beil
1739	301294734953	027-3-104-008	Land and Building	R1	15	15	Grey Meadow	DR	Scott T Fusare | Dagmar Zentrichova
1737	301235734904	027-3-104-009	Land and Building	R1	21	21	Grey Meadow	DR	James J. Chagnon | Lita M Chagnon
1735	301064735046	027-3-104-034	Land and Building	R1	24	24	Grey Meadow	DR	Arthur J. Dusablon | Barbara Dusablon
1731	300815734862	027-3-104-030	Land and Building	R1	38	38	Grey Meadow	DR	Bernard V. Bora | Denise C Bora
1724	300572734602	027-3-104-026	Land and Building	R1	56	56	Grey Meadow	DR	Sanford W. Phillips | Stephanie L. Phillips
1722	300742734398	027-3-104-023	Land and Building	R1	62	62	Grey Meadow	DR	Victor Menard | Tami Menard
67	301064734018	027-3-104-017	Land and Building	R1	74	74	Grey Meadow	DR	Catherine C. Wheeler Trust
73	299876738164	023-1-014-000	Land and Building	R1	21	21	Hardy	AVE	Lawrence A. Tulkop | Lisa M. Tulkop
74	299829738223	021-2-001-000	Land and Building	R1	29	29	Hardy	AVE	Patra S Vail
75	299647738606	021-2-007-000	Land and Building	R1	71	71	Hardy	AVE	Richard E. Dion | Faith B. Dion
77	299622738667	021-2-008-000	Land and Building	R1	77	77	Hardy	AVE	Philip Hinckley | Rosalie A. Covey
79	299594738740	021-2-009-000	Land and Building	R1	85	85	Hardy	AVE	Katherine Schumpf | Douglas J Schumpf
8426	299530738887	021-2-011-000	Land and Building	R1	101	101	Hardy	AVE	Robert K Young | Janice Young
8425	299630739037	021-2-013-000	Land and Building	R1	112	112	Hardy	AVE	Lawrence L. Blanchard | Judie A. Kreamer
8383	314404717736	053-3-067-000	Land and Building	R3	117-119	117	Howard	ST	117-119 Howard Street LLC
3617	314463717730	053-3-066-000	Land and Building	R1	121	121	Howard	ST	Jeffrey G. Schneider | Michelle C. Keegan
9016	307471727364	037-3-005-000	Land and Building	E	60	60	Institute	RD	City of Burlington - Parks Dept.
4948	308628728125	034-2-001-000	Land and Building	EL	75	75	Institute	RD	City of Burlington School Dept.
12168	315714716402	054-2-087-000	Land and Building	R1	9	9	Iranistan	RD	Karl W. Doerner | Judith M. Doerner
4859	312926723089	044-2-090-000	Land and Building	RA	17	17	Johnson	ST	1-7 Johnson Street, LLC
7196	312027721599	049-1-086-000	Land and Building	C	60	60	Lake	ST	Lake And College LLC
9011	311913721837	044-2-003-000	Land and Building	C	86	86	Lake	ST	Lake Street Associates Inc
9013	312327719230	049-2-039-000	Land and Building	E	101	101	Lavalley	LN	State of Vermont Building & General Services Dept. | Vermont State Agency of Transportation Rail Unit
9014	315258716371	054-2-082-000	Land and Building	R1	16	16	Ledge	RD	L. Josette Noll
8579	315639716371	054-2-085-000	Land and Building	R1	56-58	56	Ledge	RD	Catherine A. C. MacLachlan Trust
8575	314728717088	053-3-221-000	Land and Building	R1	38	38	Ledgemere	ST	Ila A. Abramson | Joseph A. Bluestein
8576	314724717147	053-3-220-000	Land and Building	R1	44	44	Ledgemere	ST	Margaret E Joyal
8577	314578717211	053-3-216-000	Land and Building	R1	49	49	Ledgemere	ST	Austin D. Sumner | Jennifer C. Sumner
832	314576717268	053-3-217-000	Land and Building	R1	55	55	Ledgemere	ST	Kevin S Cundiff | Charles D. Kopplin
842	314723717268	053-3-218-000	Land and Building	R1	56	56	Ledgemere	ST	Gretchen E. Hogan | Brendan P. Hogan
833	302688735119	024-2-078-000	Land and Building	R1	17	17	Loaldo	DR	Eric Gulfield
841	302581735213	024-2-096-000	Land and Building	R1	18	18	Loaldo	DR	Richard H. Yee, Jr. | Mary B. Harkin
1963	302484735139	024-2-094-000	Land and Building	R1	32	32	Loaldo	DR	Gabriel Courage | Holly Courage
1962	302377735178	024-2-092-000	Land and Building	R1	36	36	Loaldo	DR	Kenneth A Hebert | Christine A. Hebert
1960	302527734886	028-1-036-000	Land and Building	R1	51	51	Loaldo	DR	Leo P. Campbell | M. Eileen Campbell
1959	302521734809	028-1-035-000	Land and Building	R1	57	57	Loaldo	DR	Martha J Ledoux | Robert E. Ledoux
1958	302425734726	028-1-033-000	Land and Building	R2	69	69	Loaldo	DR	Patricia Anne Hollinger
1943	302376734687	028-1-032-000	Land and Building	R1	75	75	Loaldo	DR	Harvey Family Revocable Trust
1954	302333734649	028-1-031-000	Land and Building	R1	81	81	Loaldo	DR	William A. Carlson
1953	302203734748	028-1-014-000	Land and Building	R1	84	84	Loaldo	DR	Alan LeBlanc
1950	302142734498	028-1-027-000	Land and Building	R1	105	105	Loaldo	DR	Sherri L McCoy
7198	302097734461	028-1-026-000	Land and Building	R1	111	111	Loaldo	DR	Kathryn A. Newton
8583	312070720020	049-2-041-000	Land and Building	E	1	1	Maple	ST	City of Burlington - Parks Dept.

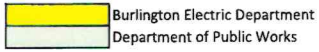
693	313297720085	049-2-001-000	Land and Building	RA	113	113	Maple	ST	Maple Street Properties, LLC
967	314811716959	053-3-224-000	Land and Building	R1	16	16	Marian	ST	Jane Merola McKenzie
964	303439736520	024-1-116-000	Land and Building	R1	4	4	Meridian	ST	Jessica Savage | Damon Savage
4920	303607736669	024-3-026-000	Land and Building	R1	28	28	Meridian	ST	Mustafa Jusupovic | Amira Jusupovic
3619	312865723126	044-2-062-000	Land and Building	RA	58-64	58	Monroe	ST	Marijos Properties
2004	312876722913	044-2-070-000	Land and Building	R4	61-63	61	Monroe	ST	Carl F. Albarelli
827	308917726980	038-1-002-000	Cemetery	E	455	455	North	AVE	Burlington City Cemetery Dept. | Lake View Cemetery
814	303250734902	028-1-078-000	Land and Building	R1	1464	1464	North	AVE	Migmar Dolma
830	303068734920	024-2-072-000	Land and Building	R2	1477	1477	North	AVE	John Whitehouse Revocable Trust
899	303097735140	024-2-058-000	Land and Building	R1	1490	1490	North	AVE	Sharon L. Fosbrook
831	302757734982	024-2-075-000	Land and Building	RA	1501	1501	North	AVE	Salamin Handy | Mountaha Handy
848	302760735193	024-2-077-000	Land and Building	R1	1519	1519	North	AVE	Elizabeth Jane Fitzpatrick
792	302609735366	024-2-100-000	Land and Building	C	1541	1541	North	AVE	Thunderbolt Garage LLC
791	302538735400	024-2-102-000	Land	RL	1547	1547	North	AVE	Jolley Associates
789	303094735926	024-2-033-000	Rental Land	E	1554	1554	North	AVE	BHA Franklin Square
870	302612735734	024-2-030-000	Rental Land	E	1562	1562	North	AVE	Burlington Housing Authority
786	302372735591	024-2-127-000	Land and Building	C	1563	1563	North	AVE	Sisters & Brothers Investment Group, LLP
885	302280735657	024-2-128-000	Land and Building	R2	1571	1571	North	AVE	Lisa McLamb
783	302362735872	024-2-027-000	Land and Building	R1	1586	1586	North	AVE	Erin Cushing | Joshua Cushing
12273	302163735806	024-2-143-000	Land and Building	R1	1595	1595	North	AVE	John R Fisher | Kathleen C. Fisher
779	302235735997	024-2-024-000	Land and Building	R1	1604	1604	North	AVE	Ginger J. Santor
778	302193736040	024-2-023-000	Land	RL	1610	1610	North	AVE	Champlain Housing Trust Inc.
511	302070736171	024-2-020-000	Land and Building	R1	1628	1628	North	AVE	Mary Lariviere
775	302029736215	024-2-019-000	Land and Building	R1	1634	1634	North	AVE	Simone M. Felty
529	301474736078	023-4-038-000	Land and Building	E	1645	1645	North	AVE	City of Burlington School Dept.
528	301904736343	024-2-016-000	Land and Building	R1	1652	1652	North	AVE	Hien Nguyen | Phuong Chung
369	301761736459	023-4-056-000	Land and Building	R1	1670	1670	North	AVE	Francis J Fagga Jr | Anne G Fagga
354	301722736500	023-4-055-000	Land and Building	R1	1676	1676	North	AVE	Terrence G. Moore | Carol J. Moore
368	300740737598	023-3-065-000	Land and Building	R1	1922	1922	North	AVE	Elizabeth S. Lewis
353	300361737619	023-3-049-000	Land and Building	RA	1925	1925	North	AVE	New Northgate Housing, LLC
366	300696737649	023-3-064-000	Land and Building	R1	1928	1928	North	AVE	Kenneth Gokey
362	300549737529	023-3-048-000	Land and Building	R1	1929	1929	North	AVE	Leah A. Oklan | Ezra Oklan
360	300604737753	023-3-062-000	Land and Building	R1	1942	1942	North	AVE	Denny Lee Johnson | Christine H. Johnson
359	300537737842	023-3-057-000	Land and Building	R1	1954	1954	North	AVE	Brent Huff | Nicole Huff
123	300432738027	023-3-054-000	Land and Building	R1	1976	1976	North	AVE	Jeannine Kneeland
99	300168738517	021-2-058-000	Land and Building	R1	2040	2040	North	AVE	Amylynn Streeter | David H. Streeter
121	300154738592	021-2-057-000	Land and Building	R1	2044	2044	North	AVE	Rama Lakshmi Courcy | Charles P. Courcy
101	299972738571	021-2-033-000	Land and Building	R1	2047	2047	North	AVE	Thomas M Leclair | Jody A Leclair
118	300132738657	021-2-056-000	Land and Building	R1	2048	2048	North	AVE	Robert Lapointe
103	299905738701	021-2-035-000	Land and Building	R1	2061	2061	North	AVE	Gary D. Dion | Linda D. Dion
114	300064738860	021-2-053-000	Land and Building	R1	2070	2070	North	AVE	Alfred Cyr III | Cherie K Cyr
64	299852738831	021-2-037-000	Land and Building	R1	2075	2075	North	AVE	Tory-Ann Torres | Luis Torres
11	298595739779	021-2-065-000	Land and Building	R1	3130	3130	North	AVE	P Maria Spadanuda
41	298501739747	021-2-066-000	Land	RL	3135	3135	North	AVE	2751 North Miami Avenue LLC
25	298438739892	020-3-001-000	Land and Building	R1	3139	3139	North	AVE	Sandra A Labombard | Todd M Labombard
22	298528739922	021-1-002-000	Land and Building	ML	3140	3140	North	AVE	Todd M Labombard | Tina M. Tofani | Irena H Labombard
4702	298469740063	020-3-019-000	Land and Building	R1	3152	3152	North	AVE	Tor D. Bortz | Lorena K. Bortz
4701	298378740302	020-3-015-000	Land and Building	R1	3174	3174	North	AVE	Treehouse Garage LLC
4700	312299724080	044-1-255-000	Land and Building	R2	87	87	North	ST	PHE, INC
4699	312335724076	044-1-254-000	Land and Building	E	89	89	North	ST	Burlington Emergency Shelter Inc
32	312380724053	044-1-253-000	Land and Building	CR	93-97	93	North	ST	3G LLC
4776	298293740997	020-3-029-000	Land	EL	0	0	North Avenue	EXT	City of Burlington - Parks Dept.
4782	312713722677	044-2-019-000	Rental Land and Building	E	20-Oct	10	North Champlain	ST	Burlington Housing Authority
59	312439723683	044-1-310-000	Land and Building	CR	99	99	North Champlain	ST	Erkson Real Estate LLC
60	312478723958	044-1-316-000	Land and Building	R1	125	125	North Champlain	ST	Martha J. Caswell | Seth Wolcott-MacCausland
61	298854740073	021-1-027-000	Land and Building	R1	40	40	North Cove	RD	Robert Bristow-Johnson | Phyllis Bristow-Johnson
12123	298848740167	021-1-030-000	Land and Building	R2	50	50	North Cove	RD	Gabriel Handy
53	298852740449	021-1-031-000	Land	RL	52	52	North Cove	RD	Timothy A. Muir | Frances D. Muir
50	298633740466	021-1-019-000	Land and Building	ML	94	94	North Cove	RD	Jessica Hamel | Perry Owens
461	298509740501	000-0-000-000	Land	X	99	99	North Cove	RD	Guy L. Southwell

2085	300949737976	023-3-160-001	Land and Building	R1	67	67	North View	DR	David C Francis | Donna Powell
4900	301950733803	028-1-165-000	Land and Building	R1	50	50	Oakland	TER	George H Cootey | Gail M Cootey
4753	301788733928	027-3-039-000	Land and Building	R1	74	74	Oakland	TER	Joanne Kalisz
4747	312264723375	044-2-043-000	Land and Building	R1	66	66	Park	ST	Malcolm M. Sanders
4745	312288723481	044-1-307-000	Land and Building	R2	76	76	Park	ST	James Design Build (John J. Burns)
4744	312278723743	044-1-301-000	Land and Building	RA	102	102	Park	ST	102 Park Street LLC
12282	312268723841	044-1-299-000	Land and Building	R1	112	112	Park	ST	Stephen Smith | Carmen Smith
12283	312265723882	044-1-298-000	Land and Building	R2	116	116	Park	ST	Adam H. Holmes
4878	312267723949	044-1-296-000	Land	RL	124	124	Park	ST	Champlain Housing Trust Inc.
4879	312262723992	044-1-295-000	Land	RL	128	128	Park	ST	Champlain Housing Trust Inc.
4881	312963722733	044-2-021-000	Land and Building	CR	68	68	Pearl	ST	68 Pearl Street LLC
4942	313046722741	044-2-022-000	Land	EL	70	70	Pearl	ST	City Of Burlington - Department of Public Works
12732	313106722710	044-2-023-000	Rental Land and Building	CR	80-90	80	Pearl	ST	Josephine Bernardini Bove | Richard J. Bove Jr.
7166	312857723305	044-2-084-000	Land and Building	R2	21	21	Peru	ST	BPJS Management LLC
7168	313163721587	049-1-125-000	Condo Land and Building	CC	84	84	Pine	ST	84 Pine Street Association
7169	313229719975	049-2-007-000	Land and Building	R2	220	220	Pine	ST	Nicholas S. Papaseraphim | Deanna Papaseraphim
7171	313222719880	049-2-009-000	Land and Building	R3	230	230	Pine	ST	Chris Khamnei
892	313233719823	049-2-010-000	Land and Building	R1	234	234	Pine	ST	Diana L Doll
893	313253719593	049-2-013-000	Land and Building	C	266	266	Pine	ST	Pine Properties LLC
546	302324736305	024-2-150-000	Land and Building	R1	68	68	Plattsburg	AVE	Mariah Ogden
547	302314736369	024-2-151-000	Land and Building	R1	76	76	Plattsburg	AVE	Abi N. Chamlagi | Mon M. Chamlagai
1788	302293736626	024-1-013-000	Land and Building	R1	100	100	Plattsburg	AVE	Michael E. Cornell | Mary E. Cornell
1744	302288736683	024-1-014-000	Land and Building	R1	104	104	Plattsburg	AVE	Kristina Wood | Tyler Rouille
1787	300280734501	027-3-159-000	Land and Building	R1	21	21	Pleasant	AVE	Merima Elkaz
1784	300386734578	027-3-109-000	Land and Building	R1	22	22	Pleasant	AVE	Maureen K. Linsenmeir
1781	300336734438	027-3-158-000	Land and Building	R1	29	29	Pleasant	AVE	Margaret B Bombard | Stephen Hadeka
1751	300502734240	027-3-154-000	Land and Building	R1	55	55	Pleasant	AVE	Boris Katsnelson | Marina Katsnelson
1778	300762734134	027-3-117-000	Land and Building	R1	80	80	Pleasant	AVE	David P Devoid | Jacqueline C. Devoid
1761	300699733692	027-3-124-000	Land and Building	R1	134	134	Pleasant	AVE	Cynthia A Warwick | Jason F. Seiler
1766	300523733869	027-3-127-000	Land and Building	R1	156	156	Pleasant	AVE	Thomas O. Ross | Mary M. Ross
1771	300389734256	027-3-140-000	Land and Building	R1	195	195	Pleasant	AVE	Meghan Fay-Mccaffrey | Liam P Mccaffrey
288	300267734171	027-3-133-000	Land and Building	R1	198	198	Pleasant	AVE	Deborah L. Clemons
7227	300334734323	027-3-139-000	Land and Building	R1	203	203	Pleasant	AVE	Richard W. Hanzel Trust (Richard W. Hanzel)
7563	300444738520	021-4-001-000	Land and Building	R1	40	40	River View	DR	Karen J Anderson
7562	313396721479	049-3-017-000	Land and Building	C	95	95	Saint Paul	ST	Investors Corporation of Vermont
8403	313439719772	049-4-045-000	Land	RL	237-241	237	Saint Paul	ST	Stephen W. Conant | Margaret C. Conant
8401	313497719645	049-4-044-000	Land and Building	C	249	249	Saint Paul	ST	Carrie Ann Rockwood | Todd M. Rockwood
8400	314532717779	053-3-044-000	Land and Building	CR	463-465	463	Saint Paul	ST	Alan R. Longe | Pamela B. Longe
8386	314572717680	053-3-042-000	Land and Building	RA	469	469	Saint Paul	ST	Gisele J. Fontaine Family Trust (Gisele J. Fontaine)
8397	314606717643	053-3-041-000	Land and Building	R3	475-477	475	Saint Paul	ST	Yee Properties LLC
8391	314805717706	053-3-027-000	Land and Building	R4	484-486	484	Saint Paul	ST	Four Eighty Four St Paul St, LLC
8395	314700717391	053-3-038-000	Land and Building	R3	507	507	Saint Paul	ST	Amanda H. Goossen | Daniel Goossen
8755	314973717440	053-3-032-000	Land and Building	R1	516	516	Saint Paul	ST	Mathew Viens | Johnnie McLaughlin
8392	314811717342	053-3-036-000	Land and Building	R1	517	517	Saint Paul	ST	Bryan A. Mihok
8754	314880717150	053-3-033-000	Land and Building	R1	539	539	Saint Paul	ST	David M. Buffington | Meriedith A. Coeyman
8841	315081717216	054-1-004-000	Land and Building	R3	540	540	Saint Paul	ST	LBC 515 & 540, LLC
8843	314915717029	054-1-001-000	Land and Building	RA	567	567	Saint Paul	ST	Sisters & Brothers Investment Group, LLP
8844	315211717046	054-1-077-000	Land and Building	R1	4	4	Shelburne	ST	Terrance A. McGrath | Timothy L. McGrath
4892	315224716923	054-1-080-000	Land and Building	R1	14	14	Shelburne	ST	Kevin F. Quirino | James J. Elias
675	315177716626	054-2-014-000	Land and Building	C	44	44	Shelburne	ST	Mary S. Burns Trust
10100	303097737144	024-1-098-000	Land and Building	R1	12	12	Sky	DR	Earl J. Babcock, Jr.
8768	303251737123	024-1-100-000	Land and Building	R1	24	24	Sky	DR	Sylvia J Bernardina
8763	318700717168	058-3-001-000	Land and Building	C	568	568	South Prospect	ST	Burlington Country Club Corp.
8762	314984717720	054-1-015-000	Land and Building	R1	467	467	South Union	ST	Rachel L. Morton Trust
8835	315058717420	054-1-010-000	Land and Building	R1	493	493	South Union	ST	Peter Keating | Kathleen Keating
8760	315072717368	054-1-009-000	Land and Building	R1	499	499	South Union	ST	George L. Shelley IV | Rachel W. Shelley
8836	315281717323	054-1-071-000	Land and Building	R3	508-510	508	South Union	ST	506-510 S Union LLC
8837	315226717276	054-1-072-000	Land and Building	R2	512	512	South Union	ST	Mary B. Hennessy
8758	315094717225	054-1-006-000	Land and Building	R1	515	515	South Union	ST	515 South Union Street-540 Saint Paul Street, LLC
7935	315220717219	054-1-073-000	Land and Building	R2	516-518	516	South Union	ST	William T. McGrath Jr. | Mcgrath Income Only Trust

8865	315108717174	054-1-005-000	Land and Building	RA	525-527	525	South Union	ST	Alain W. Brunet
8862	315665718448	054-1-102-000	Land and Building	R1	405	405	South Willard	ST	Northeastern Family Institute Of Vermont Inc.
8869	315581718256	054-1-100-000	Land and Building	R1	425	425	South Willard	ST	Ann Kelly | Kristin Kelly
8871	315540718188	054-1-099-000	Land and Building	R1	429	429	South Willard	ST	William Mares | Christine Hadsel
8850	315795718100	054-1-106-000	Land and Building	R1	436	436	South Willard	ST	Jane A. Smith 2011 Revocable Trust
8848	315726717952	054-1-108-000	Land and Building	R1	452	452	South Willard	ST	Guido Mase | Anne Kathleen Dougherty
8946	315291717084	054-1-084-000	Land and Building	R2	543	543	South Willard	ST	Michael L. Richards
1507	315300716530	054-2-015-000	Land and Building	E	600	600	South Willard	ST	Greek Orthodox Church
1535	297948733336	027-1-061-035	Land and Building	S1	2	2	Starr Farm	BC	Daniel M. Boardman Trust
1534	298064733663	027-1-061-050	Land and Building	S1	5	5	Starr Farm	BC	Edward H. Starr | Robin Robertson Starr
1503	298679733994	027-1-061-175	Land and Building	S1	9	9	Starr Farm	BC	Thomas W Dowe Jr | Leslie E. Twitchell | Elizabeth A. Dowe | Kelly Dowe Engelman
1518	298928734405	027-1-056-000	Land and Building	S1	13	13	Starr Farm	BC	W. Philip Wagner Revocable Trust | Barbara E. Wagner Revocable Trust
1520	298245734244	027-1-061-065	Land and Building	S1	15	15	Starr Farm	BC	Katherine P. Pond | Patrick S. Robins
1523	298537734316	027-1-061-090	Land and Building	S1	19	19	Starr Farm	BC	Gerald L Curley | Laura C Curley
1522	298786734414	027-1-061-100	Land and Building	S1	21	21	Starr Farm	BC	Paul R. Sisson
1526	298981734539	027-1-061-115	Land and Building	S1	23	23	Starr Farm	BC	Richard H. Wiemann
1536	298899734639	027-1-061-110	Land and Building	S1	24	24	Starr Farm	BC	Kenneth R. Lee | Kathleen P. Lee
501	299373735397	027-1-061-180	Land and Building	S1	34	34	Starr Farm	BC	Denis O'Brien | Isela M O'Brien
502	301479735575	023-4-026-000	Land	CL	43	43	Starr Farm	RD	John J. Flynn Estate
506	300858735154	023-4-029-000	Land and Building	R1	151	151	Starr Farm	RD	Marina C. Collins
507	300777735004	023-4-032-000	Land and Building	R1	167	167	Starr Farm	RD	Allen L. Barr Jr. | Mary E. Barr
508	300679735022	023-4-033-000	Land and Building	R1	173	173	Starr Farm	RD	Daniel Elliott | Joanna Elliott
1705	300625734986	023-4-034-000	Land and Building	R1	179	179	Starr Farm	RD	Neal Bernard Hayes Jr | Nikki Lee Hayes
1741	300562734939	023-4-035-000	Land and Building	R1	187	187	Starr Farm	RD	Caroline M. Rudd
595	300477734780	027-3-103-000	Land and Building	R1	201	201	Starr Farm	RD	Ted Jacobites
592	300430734716	027-3-105-000	Land and Building	R1	207	207	Starr Farm	RD	Maurice A. Paquette | Karen M Paquette
589	302949736960	024-1-063-000	Land and Building	R1	87	87	Sunset	DR	Norma C. Brunelle
689	303070736795	024-1-061-000	Land and Building	R1	109	109	Sunset	DR	Thaddeus Zabiegalski | Frances Zabiegalski
898	303109736727	024-1-060-000	Land and Building	R1	117	117	Sunset	DR	Andrew E. Potter | Meagan G. Potter
850	303315736735	024-1-112-000	Land and Building	R1	126	126	Sunset	DR	Mary A. Perry | Joan G. Perry | Judith B. Bailey
851	303299736401	024-2-157-000	Land and Building	R1	151	151	Sunset	DR	Yolanda Flores
853	302428735423	024-2-104-000	Land and Building	R1	13	13	Tracy	DR	Neil Guilmette | Michelle Guilmette
1681	302371735380	024-2-105-000	Land and Building	R1	19	19	Tracy	DR	Michelle Valiquette | John J. Valiquette Jr.
1683	301514734657	027-3-069-000	Land and Building	R1	131	131	Tracy	DR	Hue Thi Nguyen | Tuan Nguyen
1684	301438734640	027-3-071-000	Land and Building	R1	139	139	Tracy	DR	Liam N. Page
1688	301386734597	027-3-073-000	Land and Building	R1	145	145	Tracy	DR	Debra A. LeBlanc
553	301107734379	027-3-083-000	Land and Building	R1	181	181	Tracy	DR	Margaret Poulin | Kirk Poulin | Robin A. Smith | Laura J. Blaise | Rebecca L. Richardson
12655	302040736842	024-1-020-000	Land and Building	R1	37	37	Turf	RD	Jay P. Bessette | Diem T. Ha
662	303063737772	024-1-078-000	Condo Land	RC	1	1	Valade	ST	Valade Park Condo Association
663	303195737405	024-1-084-000	Land and Building	R1	42	42	Venus	AVE	Harvey C. Allard Jr. | Margaret M Allard
665	303276737383	024-1-085-000	Land and Building	R1	46	46	Venus	AVE	Ziyu Fang
950	303507737147	024-3-012-000	Land and Building	R1	77	77	Venus	AVE	Macie Sicard | Brian Sicard
873	303733737206	024-3-016-000	Land and Building	R1	94	94	Venus	AVE	John F K Rouille | Mary R Rouille
881	303700737029	024-3-009-000	Land and Building	R1	101	101	Venus	AVE	Muaz Omanovic | Kija Omanovic
492	302132735650	024-2-131-000	Land and Building	R1	19	19	West	RD	Richard Sener | Karen J. Sener
491	301910735636	024-2-139-000	Land and Building	R1	38	38	West	RD	Gina A. Scafa
1631	301501735308	023-4-018-000	Land and Building	R1	90	90	West	RD	Joshua Farley | Andrea Farley
12221	301575735164	023-4-015-000	Land and Building	R1	95	95	West	RD	Heinrich Savelberg | Christina T. Savelberg | Casandra C. Savelberg
12222	301521733604	027-3-014-000	Land and Building	R1	66	66	Western	AVE	Kimberly Ann Hunt | Alexander T. Messinger
463	300746737816	023-3-061-000	Land	RL	19	19	Woods	ST	Champlain Housing Trust Inc.
1626	300686738042	023-3-164-000	Land and Building	R1	40	40	Woods	ST	First United Methodist Church of Burlington VT
1625	301216733969	027-3-031-000	Land and Building	R1	10	10	York	DR	Roland A Dion | Gail A Dion
1650	301364733886	027-3-009-000	Land and Building	R1	15	15	York	DR	Kim M. Palasits
	301438733948	027-3-008-000	Land and Building	R1	29	29	York	DR	Steven R. Benoit | Jean M. Benoit
*Properties on	301447734149	027-3-033-000	Land and Building	R1	38	38	York	DR	Kendra Barber | Israel Smith

LEGEND:

- Department of Permitting & Inspections--Trades Division
- Department of Permitting & Inspections--Housing Division
- Department of Permitting & Inpections--Zoning Division
- Burlington Public Works--Water Resources


Burlington Electric Department
Department of Public Works

Record No: ELI-61

Entertainment License - Indoor

Status: Active

Submitted On: 12/5/2025

Primary Location

400 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401

Owner

HOWARD SPACE PARTNERSHIP LLP
28 HOWARD STREET, UNIT 302 BURLINGTON, VT 05401

Applicant

Christy Mitchell
802-578-2512
director@seaba.com
400 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401

New

Establishment Information

Establishment Name (DBA) *

SEABA

Establishment Street Address*

400 Pine Street

Establishment City, State Zip*

Burlington, VT 05401

Establishment Phone*

802-578-2512

Establishment Owner (Legal Name) *

Christine Mitchell

Legal Owner Mailing Street Address*

400 Pine Street

Legal Owner Mailing City, State Zip*

Burlington, VT 05401

Contact Person Name*

Christy Mitchell

Contact Email Address*

director@seaba.com

Contact Phone*

802-578-2512

Application Information

Occupant Load*

280

Number of Restrooms*

7

Number of Egresses*

6

Date of Last Fire Safety Inspection*

10/31/2025

Dancing by Patrons*

Yes

Amplified Music*

Yes

Indoor entertainment Types; Check all that Apply

Live Instrumental Music

☑

Live Vocal Music

☑

Jukebox / Boom Box / Ipad

☑

Disc Jockey

☑

Karaoke

☑

Floor/Stage Show Entertainment

☑

Floor/Stage Show Entertainment Details:

Check any of the below for which you are applying, and provide additional description in the text box below.

Fashion Show / Trade Show / Exhibition

☑

Readings

☑

Stage Play / Pantomime

☑

Comedian

☑

Dance Performance

☑

Contests / Games / Amusements

☑

Movies

☑

Other

☑

Floor / Stage Show / Other Description*

The SEABA Center is a community hub for arts and events, many family oriented, so the types of events will vary.

Indoor Entertainment Proposed Days; Check all that Apply

Sunday

☑

Monday

☑

Tuesday

☑

Wednesday

☑

Thursday

☑

Friday

☑

Saturday

☑

Indoor Entertainment Hours

Sunday Start Time*

12:00 Noon

Sunday End Time*

4:00 PM

Monday Start Time*

10:00 AM

Monday End Time*

12:00 Midnight

Tuesday Start Time*

10:00 AM

Tuesday End Time*

12:00 Midnight

Wednesday Start Time*

10:00 AM

Wednesday End Time*

12:00 Midnight

Thursday Start Time*

10:00 AM

Thursday End Time*

2:00 AM

Friday Start Time*

10:00 AM

Friday End Time*

2:00 AM

Saturday Start Time*

10:00 AM

Saturday End Time*

2:00 AM

Changes or Corrections to your License Application

Do you have any changes for this year's application?*

No

VT Division of Liquor Control Licenses

First Class Liquor License*

No

Second Class Liquor License*

No

Third Class Liquor License*

No

Outside Consumption Permit*

No

Standard Entertainment Permit Conditions

I Attest that I have read the Standard Entertainment Permit Conditions

Digital Signature*

Christine Mitchell
Nov 3, 2025

Certification

I have agreed to submit this application by electronic means. I understand that an electronic signature has the same legal effect and can be enforced in the same way as a written signature. By checking this box and typing my name, I am electronically signing my application.*

Christine Mitchell
Nov 3, 2025

Attachments

Record Activity

Christy Mitchell started a draft Record	11/03/2025 at 5:15 pm
Christy Mitchell submitted Record ELI-61	12/05/2025 at 4:19 pm
OpenGov system altered approval step City Clerk's Office Review, changed status from Inactive to Active on Record ELI-61	12/05/2025 at 4:19 pm
OpenGov system assigned approval step City Clerk's Office Review to Lori Olberg on Record ELI-61	12/05/2025 at 4:19 pm
Lori Olberg changed form field entry Outside Consumption Permit from "Yes" to "No" on Record ELI-61	12/08/2025 at 9:24 am
Lori Olberg changed form field entry Third Class Liquor License from "Yes" to "No" on Record ELI-61	12/08/2025 at 9:24 am
Lori Olberg changed form field entry First Class Liquor License from "Yes" to "No" on Record ELI-61	12/08/2025 at 9:24 am

Timeline

Label	Activated	Completed	Assignee	Due Date	Status
✓ City Clerk's Office Review	12/5/2025, 4:19:09 PM	-	Lori Olberg	-	Active
$ Entertainment Fee Payment	-	-	Christy Mitchell	-	Inactive
✓ Fire Marshal Review	-	-	-	-	Inactive
✓ City Council Approval	-	-	-	-	Inactive

Label	Activated	Completed	Assignee	Due Date	Status
Indoor Entertainment License Issuance	-	-	-	-	Inactive

Home (/DLLLicenseManagment/s/)

Application
DLL - Application - 67595

Approve | Reject | Applicant Action Required | Town Payment Received | Download

APPLICATION DETAILS | RELATED INFORMATION

Application Information

DLL - Application Id
DLL - Application - 67595

Business Entity Name
Catamount Tobacco and Convenience LLC

Applicant Email
peter.garang2@gmail.com (mailto:peter.garang2@gmail.com)

Business Entity Phone
315-317-2228

Renewal Application

Foundational License

Town Fee
0

Application Fee
50.00

License/Permit Location Description

Expected start date of Half Year License

Designated Caterers Details

Days Since Last Modified
0

Estimated time period for alcohol

Name and address from whom you purchase

Renewal Change Indicated

Renewal Change Description

URL for Policies & Procedures

URL for Duties

Send Approval Email

External Status
Application sent to municipality

Town Clerk/ Municipal Jurisdiction
Burlington

Application Type
Permit

Application Category
Tobacco

Application For
Tobacco Substitute Endorsement

Historical Id
TSEP

Holding Tobacco Licence

Not Holding Tobacco License

Applicant Action Comments

Town User Approval/Rejection Comments

Quantity of Alcohol required

what purpose this alcohol is used to be

Where is this alcohol to be used

New

Location Details

Physical Location Name
Catamount Tobacco and Convenience LLC

Physical Location Street 1
75 Church Street

Physical Location Street 2/Unit/Suite

Location
LN-036147 (/DLLLicenseManagment/s/detail/a0Aeq000006jOkHEAU)

Address of warehouse located in Vermont:

Name Address of Vermont Wholesale Dealer

Home (/DLLLicenseManagment/s/)

Application
DLL - Application - 67155

Approve | Reject | Applicant Action Required | Town Payment Received | Download

APPLICATION DETAILS | RELATED INFORMATION

Application Information

DLL - Application Id
DLL - Application - 67155

Business Entity Name
Mr. Convenience VT, LLC

Applicant Email
mrconveniencevt@gmail.com (mailto:mrconveniencevt@gmail.com)

Business Entity Phone
3156012999

Renewal Application

Foundational License

Town Fee
0

Application Fee
110.00

License/Permit Location Description

Expected start date of Half Year License

Designated Caterers Details

Days Since Last Modified
2

Estimated time period for alcohol

Name and address from whom you purchase

Renewal Change Indicated

Renewal Change Description

URL for Policies & Procedures

URL for Duties

Send Approval Email

External Status
Application sent to municipality

Town Clerk/ Municipal Jurisdiction
Burlington

Application Type
License

Application Category
Tobacco

Application For
Tobacco License

Historical Id
TOBC

Holding Tobacco Licence

Not Holding Tobacco License

Applicant Action Comments

Town User Approval/Rejection Comments

Quantity of Alcohol required

what purpose this alcohol is used to be

Where is this alcohol to be used

New

Location Details

Physical Location Name
Store #1 Burlington

Physical Location Street 1
457 Saint Paul Street

Physical Location Street 2/Unit/Suite

Location
LN-036252 (/DLLLicenseManagment/s/detail/a0Aeq000006yXKDEA2)

Address of warehouse located in Vermont:

Name Address of Vermont Wholesale Dealer

Home (/DLLLicenseManagment/s/)

Application
DLL - Application - 67156

Approve | Reject | Applicant Action Required | Town Payment Received | Download

APPLICATION DETAILS | RELATED INFORMATION

Application Information

DLL - Application Id
DLL - Application - 67156

Business Entity Name
Mr. Convenience VT, LLC

Applicant Email
mrconveniencevt@gmail.com (mailto:mrconveniencevt@gmail.com)

Business Entity Phone
3156012999

Renewal Application

Foundational License

Town Fee
0

Application Fee
50.00

License/Permit Location Description

Expected start date of Half Year License

Designated Caterers Details

Days Since Last Modified
2

Estimated time period for alcohol

Name and address from whom you purchase

Renewal Change Indicated

Renewal Change Description

URL for Policies & Procedures

URL for Duties

Send Approval Email

External Status
Application sent to municipality

Town Clerk/ Municipal Jurisdiction
Burlington

Application Type
Permit

Application Category
Tobacco

Application For
Tobacco Substitute Endorsement

Historical Id
TSEP

Holding Tobacco Licence

Not Holding Tobacco License

Applicant Action Comments

Town User Approval/Rejection Comments

Quantity of Alcohol required

what purpose this alcohol is used to be

Where is this alcohol to be used

New

Location Details

Physical Location Name
Store #1 Burlington

Physical Location Street 1
457 Saint Paul Street

Physical Location Street 2/Unit/Suite

Location
LN-036252 (/DLLLicenseManagment/s/detail/a0Aeq000006yXKDEA2)

Address of warehouse located in Vermont:

Name Address of Vermont Wholesale Dealer

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

MDP-26-01 Burlington's Open Space Plan

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4385, 4387, 4432, and §4444, notice is hereby given of public hearings by the Burlington City Council to hear comments on the proposed Burlington Open Space Plan:

The first public hearing will take place on **Monday, December 15, 2025 during the Regular City Council Meeting which begins at 6:00 pm in Contois Auditorium, Burlington City Hall, 149 Church Street, Burlington, VT or you may access the hearing/meeting as follows:**

On-line: https://zoom.us/j/93242298515
By telephone: +1 305 224 1968 US
Webinar ID: 932 4229 8515

The second public hearing will take place on **Monday, January 12, 2026 during the Regular City Council Meeting which begins at 6:00 pm in Contois Auditorium, Burlington City Hall, 149 Church Street, Burlington, VT or you may access the hearing/meeting as follows:**

On-line: https://zoom.us/j/99551944677
By telephone: +1 646 931 3860 US
Webinar ID: 995 5194 4677

Pursuant to the requirements of 24 V.S.A. §4444(b):

Statement of purpose
The Open Space Plan is a roadmap to guide the City of Burlington and its residents, partners, and collaborators as they work together to grow and steward Burlington's open spaces now and in the future. Burlington is a place where open spaces, water, and the built environment are intertwined in a symbiotic relationship that helps to make Burlington the unique place that is it. As Burlington continues to intensify in density to accommodate its increasing population, the City aims to continue its long-standing commitment to providing equitable access to quality open spaces and stewarding the health of the city's ecosystems.

Burlington's Open Space Plan takes an interdisciplinary approach to documenting the City's open spaces, updating open space goals, and identifying specific resource targets and timelines through a robust community-focused engagement process. Ultimately, this plan is created to ensure that both the community—those who live, work, and recreate here—and the wildlife and flora will continue to thrive for generations to come.

Geographic areas affected
Burlington's Open Space Plan is applicable to all areas within the City of Burlington.

List of section headings affected
Burlington's Open Space Plan is a comprehensive rewrite of the previously adopted Open Space Protection Plan (2000 & 2014) and replaces all chapters, appendices, maps, and references.

The full text of the draft 2025 *Burlington Open Space Plan is* available online at www.burlingtonvt.gov/planbtv/OpenSpace. Upon request, a hard copy of the proposed plan can be viewed at the Department of Permitting and Inspections located 645 Pine Street, Burlington, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Burlington Conservation Board
311 North Avenue
Burlington, VT 05408
http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/dpi
Telephone: (802) 865-7188

Rebecca Roman, Chair
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Zoe Richards
Don Meals
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Ethan Ely
Dale Azaria
Kelly Farrell
Evan Horne
Alan Reichard

TO:	Burlington City Council
	Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak
FROM:	Burlington Conservation Board
	Scott Gustin, AICP, DPI Principal Planner
DATE:	December 15, 2025
RE:	2025 Open Space Plan

Following more than a year of collaboration and outreach, the Burlington Conservation Board is pleased to present the 2025 Open Space Plan for public hearing with the City Council.

This plan is the result of extensive work including dozens of community outreach and engagement events, assessments, visioning, and writing. The effort to rewrite the city's Open Space Plan has been a collaborative effort between the core city team, UVM's Spatial Analysis Lab, and Agency Landscape & Planning. The Conservation Board, Parks Commission, and Planning Commission have also engaged in the planning process. Conservation, Parks, and Planning Commission have all voted to approve the plan and forward it to City Council for adoption.

This new plan builds on the legacy of the original Open Space Protection Plan adopted some 25 years ago and sets the vision for Open Space in Burlington for years to come. This new plan is founded on four primary components:

- Conserve
  Stewarding Burlington's network of protected lands to support healthy ecosystems and a healthy city
- Connect
  A landscape stitched together by stewardship and green design standards for development
- Experience
  Expanding a variety of nature experiences across Burlington
- Cultivate
  Growing sustainable and accessible local food systems that meet community needs

This new Open Space Plan builds on the conservation legacy of the original plan and creates a vision for collaborative, community wide efforts to retain and strengthen our green network as we continue to grow, to provide for diverse outdoor experiences for all, and to ensure sustainable and accessible local food systems.

The Open Space Plan is incorporated by reference into the Comprehensive Plan. We are seeking City Council approval of this plan. Ultimately, the plan will be included in the Comprehensive Plan when that document is updated and adopted.

City Council Motion
Waive the reading and refer the Open Space Plan for a second and final public hearing and adoption by City Council on January 12, 2026.

FINAL VERSION
December 10, 2025

BURLINGTON OPEN SPACE PLAN

"WHILE IT INITIALLY TAKES EFFORT TO NOTICE SOMETHING NEW, OVER TIME A CHANGE HAPPENS THAT IS IRREVERSIBLE. REDWOODS, OAKS, AND BLACKBERRY SHRUBS WILL NEVER BE "A BUNCH OF GREEN." A TOWHEE WILL NEVER SIMPLY BE "A BIRD" TO ME AGAIN, EVEN IF I WANTED IT TO BE. AND IT FOLLOWS THAT THIS PLACE CAN NO LONGER BE ANY PLACE."

– JENNY ODELL,
HOW TO DO NOTHING

Letter from the Open Space Plan Team

Welcome to Burlington's 2025 Open Space Plan!

This plan is the result of dozens of community outreach and engagement events, stakeholder sessions, and the input and participation of hundreds of community members. It builds on the legacy of the original Open Space Protection Plan adopted 25 years ago and sets the vision for Open Space in Burlington for years to come.

Burlington has a wealth of green spaces spanning the expansive working lands of the Intervale to the wooded urban wilds such as Arthur Park and Arms Forest to the small pockets of green within our downtown. These open spaces are integral to the fabric of our community and provide spaces for wildlife, food production, and social connections.

The original 2000 Open Space Protection Plan created our first open space inventory and served as the foundation for regulatory protection of significant natural areas such as the Lake Champlain shoreline, our urban wilds, and even more developed riparian corridors such as along Englesby Brook. Just as significantly, the original plan provided the basis for establishing the Conservation Legacy Fund. This fund has helped conserve 236 acres of land across 10 different parcels. The original plan has served our community well over the past 25 years.

A lot has changed in 25 years. The city has grown, the climate crisis has intensified, and our concepts of what open spaces should be and do have evolved. Protection of our open space network remains paramount, but we also seek more functionality with things like urban orchards and secure local food production, carbon sequestration, and neighborhood cooling with a robust urban tree canopy.

This new Open Space Plan builds on the conservation legacy of the original plan and creates a vision for collaborative, community wide efforts to retain and strengthen our green network as we continue to grow, to provide for diverse outdoor experiences for all, and to ensure sustainable and accessible local food systems.

In sum, this Open Space Plan reflects the community's vision for open space into the future. It is a vision that we will realize together.

Sincerely yours,

- Dan Cahill, City Land Steward
- Scott Gustin, Principal Planner
- Sarah Morgan, Principal Planner
- Zoe Richards, Conservation Board Representative
- Sophie Sauvé, Parks Planning Division Director
- Juliet Shen, Marketing & Communications Manager

Acknowledgments

Core City Team
- Dan Cahill, City Land Steward
- Scott Gustin, Principal Planner
- Sarah Morgan, Principal Planner
- Zoe Richards, Conservation Board Representative
- Sophie Sauvé, Parks Planning Division Director
- Juliet Shen, Marketing & Communications Manager

Conservation Board
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- Dale Azaria
- Ethan Ely
- Kelly Farrell
- Evan Horne
- Don Meals
- Zoe Richards

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- Erhard Mahnke
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- Sarah Carpenter
- Melo Grant
- Joe Kane
- Evan Litwin
- Carter Neubieser
- Allie Schachter
- Ranjit “Buddy” Singh

Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak

Consultant Teams
- Agency Landscape + Planning
- Chapman EcoLandscape
- UVM Spatial Analysis Lab
- Christine Tyler Hill

Funding provided by the Conservation Legacy Fund

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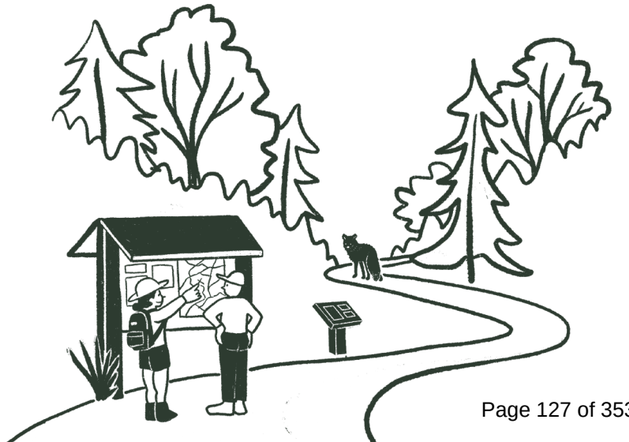


Plan Summary

Nestled on the shores of Lake Champlain at the confluence with the winding Winooski River, Burlington sits at a regionally significant location.

Open spaces are at the heart of what makes Burlington special — enabling high quality of life for the community, supporting the city's economy, growing local food, providing home to local and migrating wildlife, and keeping the city cool in a changing climate.

Burlington's open spaces do more than provide spaces for recreation and wildlife habitats!

They also help to absorb stormwater and reduce the impacts of flooding, help cool the city, grow food, sequester carbon, and clean the water and air.

Burlington's Open Space Plan establishes a framework for conserving, managing, and expanding open space across the city.

As Burlington continues to grow, the plan works to protect vital natural environments and open space and ensure they are an integral part of a livable, resilient city. This plan builds on the plans that have come before it and aims to align closely with other planning initiatives, including the upcoming comprehensive plan, to create synergy across city departments.

The plan frames the open space system as an healthy network that supports climate resilience, biodiversity, equitable access, and high quality of life. During the plan process, several key findings and opportunities were identified:

The City is well served by open space with opportunities to expand access and connect natural resources.

Burlington already contains a substantial share of open space, nearly half of its land area falls under some open- or green-space designation.

However, some neighborhoods have abundant access to parks and nature areas, while others have limited access. Many open areas are also disconnected from one another. The plan underscores the importance of wildlife corridors, riparian buffers, greenbelts, and connected trails as essential to ecological health and public use.

City population growth should be balanced with thoughtful conservation policies.

With increasing development pressure, especially in infill and densification areas, there is heightened tension between protecting open land and meeting housing, infrastructure, and economic goals. As part of the plan's engagement process, residents raised concerns about losing natural areas, water quality, wildlife habitat, and floodplain functions. Public feedback frequently emphasized the need to balance growth with conservation and employ green design standards.

We need to plan for increasing climate, ecological, and stormwater demands today!

The plan reaffirms that nature-based solutions like forest and tree canopy management, wetland protection, and urban greening, will play an important role in Burlington's climate resilience strategy.

Many open spaces double as stormwater buffers, floodplains, or carbon sinks. Managing these places that provide multiple benefits is critical in adapting to increasing rainfall, heat, and ecological stress.

This plan is an opportunity to coordinate the many stewards and landowners who contribute to the open space network.

The plan identifies the need for stronger coordination across city departments, clearer roles and funding, and tools to help implement the plan's actions. It emphasizes that conservation cannot rely only on the City and on city regulations, but must take advantage of existing landowners, partners, and engaged stewards.

The Community's vision is at the center of this plan.

The planning process has intentionally reached out and welcomed ideas and worries from the many diverse residents who make up Burlington's community. A recurring theme is that residents value both access to nature (walking, recreation) and preserving "wild" spaces—especially as the city grows.

Plan at a Glance

Nestled on the shores of Lake Champlain at the confluence with the winding Winooski River, Burlington sits at a regionally significant location. Open spaces are at the heart of what makes Burlington special — enabling high quality of life for our community, supporting our city's economy, growing local food, providing home to local and migrating wildlife, and keeping us cool in a changing climate.

The Open Space Plan provides a roadmap for how to continue to protect the city's open space and urban forest network through a collaborative stewardship approach. Balancing the need to grow with healthy ecosystems is possible with thoughtful planning and collaboration.

VISION

SEE PAGES 56 - 65

Burlington is a Nature-Filled City

with healthy open spaces where wildlife thrive in forests, streams, and the lake; where people enjoy nature's various offerings and eat what their gardens and farms grow; and **where people and ecosystems flourish together.**

GOALS

STRATEGIES

SEE PAGES 66 - 141

GOAL ONE

CONSERVE

Stewarding Burlington's network of protected lands to support healthy ecosystems and a healthy city

- Expand restoration and management city-wide
- Support wildlife movement and ecological health
- Evolve the Conservation Legacy Fund to be flexible to changing needs
- Collaborate to protect open space for future generations

GOAL TWO

CONNECT

Knitting the landscape together through green infrastructure, stewardship, and green design standards

- Grow and celebrate nature-based climate solutions
- Cultivate an ecosystem of stewardship
- Enhance and protect Burlington's urban forest
- Encourage new development to incorporate nature-based principles

GOAL THREE

EXPERIENCE

Expanding a variety of nature experiences across Burlington

- Increase awareness about Burlington's open spaces
- Grow public access to nature-based experiences
- Break down barriers to open space access

GOAL FOUR

CULTIVATE

Growing sustainable and accessible local food systems that meet community needs

- Cultivate sustainable and resilient agriculture practices
- Expand community gardens
- Support the cultivation of alternate food sources

IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP

The open space plan is a collaborative roadmap to stewarding the future of our city's open spaces.

While the focus is on actions the City of Burlington can take, it also offers strategies we all can take to expand stewardship.

The implementation roadmap identifies:

- Implementation Lead
- Key Partners
- Implementation Timeframe

Arms Forest

1

Introduction

Burlington wouldn't be Burlington without its open spaces. This plan provides a vision and roadmap for protecting them together now and in the future.

Plan Purpose

The Open Space Plan is a roadmap to guide the City of Burlington and its residents, partners, and collaborators as they work together to grow and steward Burlington's open spaces now and in the future.

Burlington is a place where open spaces, water, and the built environment are intertwined in a symbiotic relationship that helps to make Burlington the unique place that is it. The conservation of open space and waterways enhances the quality of life for residents and allows for the continued preservation, restoration, and functioning of the natural systems of which we are a part.

The city benefits from an abundance of open space totaling almost 50% of its geographic area and is naturally bound by Lake Champlain and the Winooski River. The city's environmental ethic has pushed for preservation, adaptation, and access to its diverse open spaces.

As Burlington continues to intensify in density to accommodate its increasing population, the City aims to continue its long-standing commitment to providing equitable access to quality open spaces and stewarding the health of the city's ecosystems.

Burlington's Open Space Plan takes an interdisciplinary approach to documenting the City's open spaces, updating open space goals, and identifying specific resource targets and timelines through a robust community-focused engagement process. Ultimately, this plan is created to ensure that both the community—those who live, work, and recreate here—and the wildlife and flora will continue to thrive for generations to come.

Open space matters to Burlington in so many ways!

WHAT IS OPEN SPACE?

"Open space" encompasses all the green, outdoor spaces in the city that are important for its ecological health and people's mental health. It includes natural areas, agricultural lands, parks, greenbelts, rain gardens, pocket parks, and trees, as well as school grounds, campuses, and private yards.

Open spaces are used by people for many reasons, including recreation, play, leisure, and growing food. Environmentally, they're critical for wildlife and for climate resilience. They also provide residents with a connection to nature. Open spaces include publicly accessible green spaces owned by the City of Burlington, as well as privately owned open spaces. They vary in character, size, and distribution throughout the city. Together, our open spaces create an important network for people, nature, and our city.

Within the city there are...

WORKING LANDS

50 miles of shoreline

Scenic Views

380 acres of wetlands

WATERS + WETLANDS

14 community gardens

Everyday Nature Experiences

50% of the city's land area is open space

PARKS

FORESTS

50+ parks and urban wild areas

40% tree canopy

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

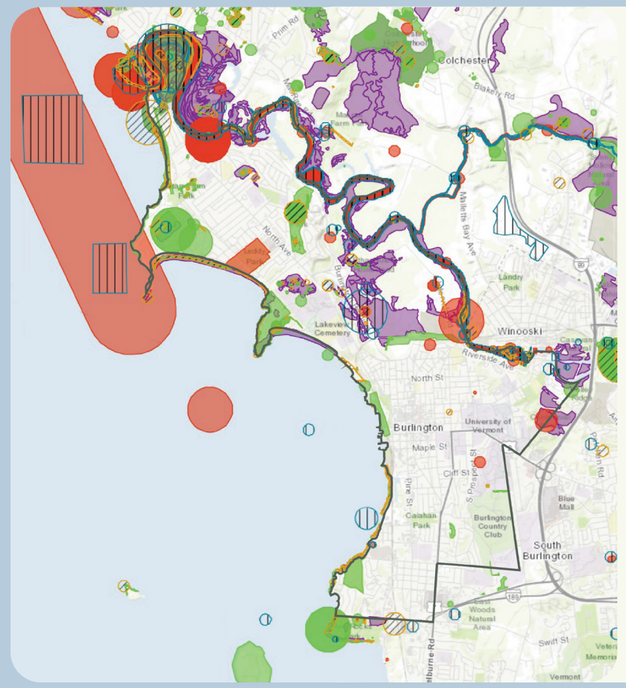
Natural Communities

LAWNS + AUXILIARY GREEN SPACES

Why does Open Space matter?

Burlington's open spaces play a critical role in regional ecosystems.

At the confluence of the Winooski River Basin and Lake Champlain, Burlington is home to not only 44,000 residents, but also a rich diversity of plants and wildlife species. The City includes plants, animals, and natural communities that are uncommon in Vermont, as well as species classified as rare, threatened, and endangered by the State. Many of these significant natural communities are found along Burlington's waterways, from the shores of Lake Champlain to the Winooski River corridor.



VT Uncommon Species

- Plant
- Animal
- Natural Community

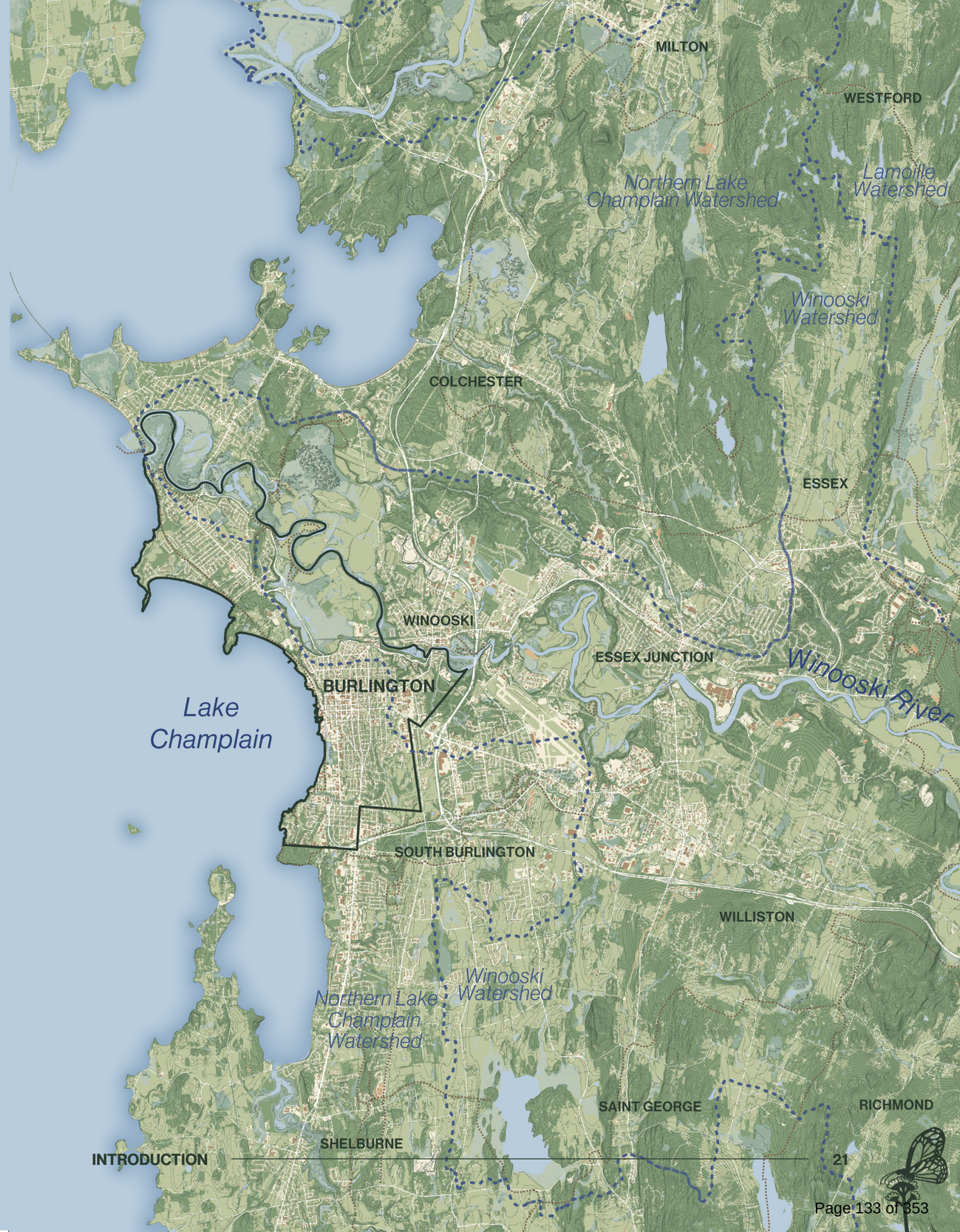
VT Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species

- RTE Animal
- RTE Plant

VT Significant Natural Communities

- VT Significant Natural Communities

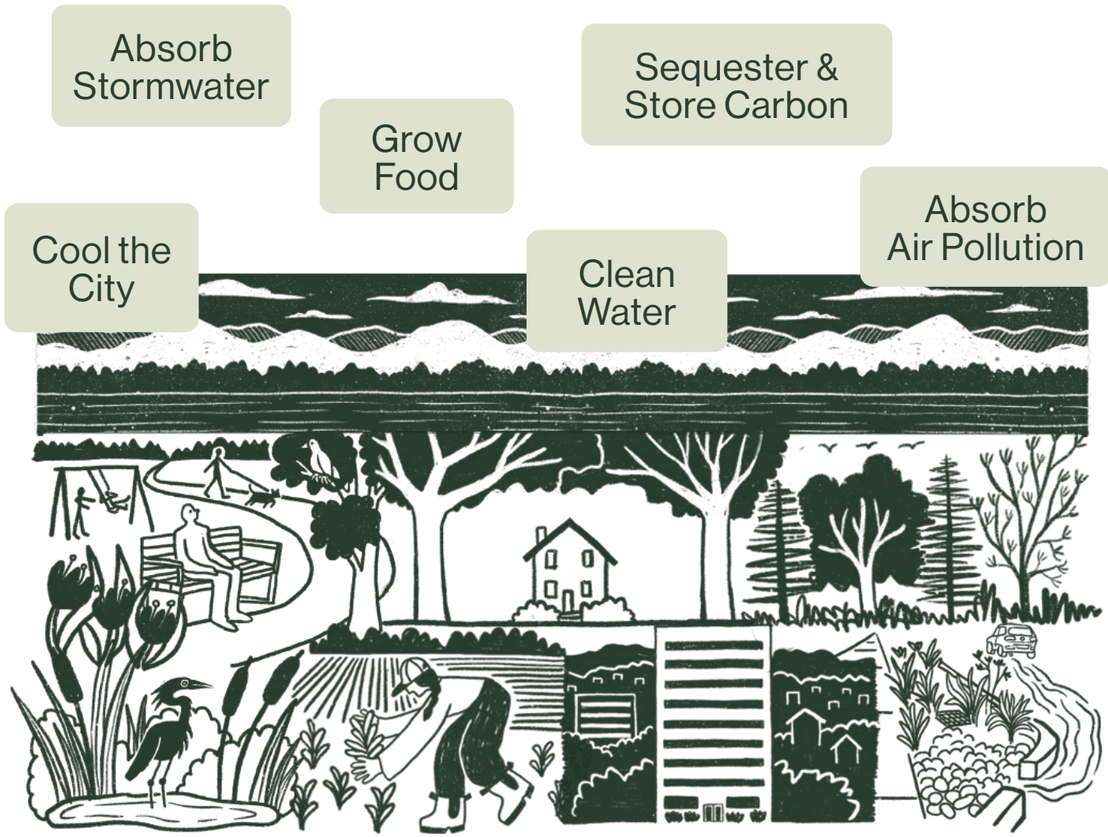
VT Natural Resources Atlas



Why does Open Space matter?

Burlington's open spaces act as natural infrastructure for the city.

The city's green spaces are just as important for its function as roads and hard infrastructure, like pipes and power lines. Like other kinds of infrastructure, they keep the city running and thriving. You might not think of a tree as a piece of infrastructure, but it and the other green spaces in our city provide important services like cleaning water, absorbing pollution, and keeping our city cool.



Ecosystem Services

Open spaces are increasingly important as our climate changes.

Burlington is the 4th fastest warming city in the US.

Burlington's tree canopy and green spaces act as natural air conditioning, keeping our city cool. A shaded house can keep a home's temperature cooler in the summer and with the right tree, can let in more light and heat during the winter. The cooling power of trees is just one example of how they keep our city livable and healthy for all of us. These superpowers will be even more critical as our climate changes. We need our tree canopy and open spaces now more than ever.

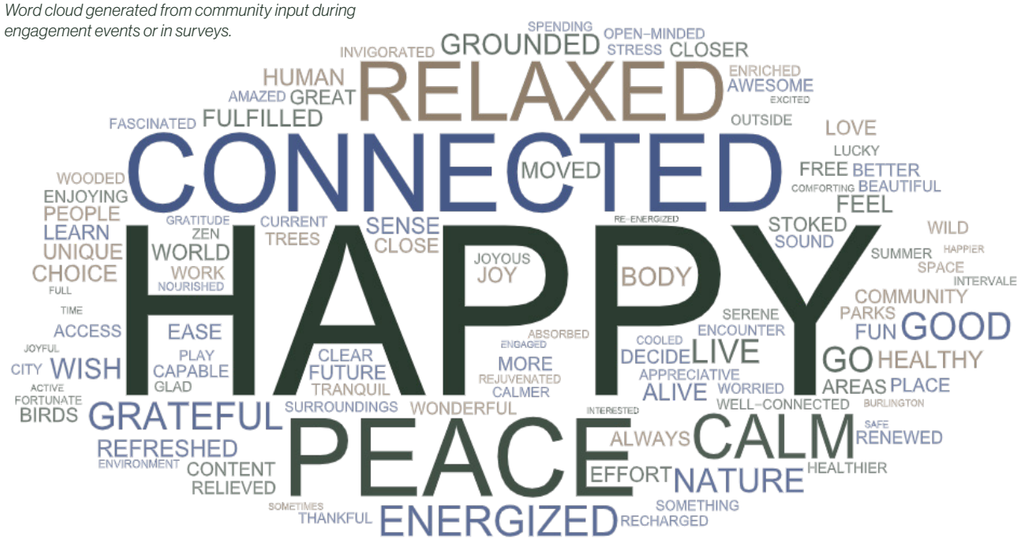
Why does Open Space matter?

Supporting Human Health and Wellbeing

From providing places for being active to quiet spots to relax and recharge, open spaces help keep us healthy. They also provide spaces for us to gather, strengthening our community. Public parks offer free spaces to recreate, and research shows that access to parks results in healthcare savings.

Being in Burlington's open spaces make you feel...

Word cloud generated from community input during engagement events or in surveys.



Supporting Our City's Economy

Open spaces also contribute to our local economy. From direct employment of city staff who care for parks, to saving our city money with the ecosystem services open spaces provide, like reducing local flooding. They also play an important role in our city's economy by driving tourism and supporting outdoor recreation businesses.

Local Jobs * **Spending by Locals** * **Spending by Visitors** * **Local Businesses**

Ecosystem of Stewardship

We're all partners in the future of Burlington's open spaces.

While this document is primarily a roadmap for the City of Burlington, by working together, we can expand our collective impact. Continuing to steward, protect, and enhance our open spaces depends on all of us. Many of these organizations are regularly collaborating on open space initiatives and knowledge sharing–and many more are not listed. These are but a few of the champions who make a difference in open space stewardship.

City of Burlington

City Planning
Public Works
Water Resources
CEDO
Parks, Recreation and Waterfront
REIB

Homeowners with yards

Other Governmental Partners

VHCB
State of Vermont
Chittenden County
Adjacent Municipalities
CCRPC

Development Community

Community Organizations

Large Land Stewards

The Intervale Center
Vermont Land Trust
University of Vermont
Champlain Housing Trust
Episcopal Diocese of Vermont
WVPD

Plan Process Overview

The Open Space Plan builds on the decades of open space planning and protection in Burlington.

The Open Space Plan reinforces ongoing commitment to conservation, with a renewed roadmap to guide the next chapter of collaborative stewardship and a policy vision for management and access. As Burlington grows, everyone needs fair access to high-quality open spaces while maintaining the ecological health of existing natural areas. The Plan expands on previous plans by:

- Connecting it with other city plans, like the Urban Forestry Plan.
- Working across City departments to make sure the Plan is visionary and feasible.
- Partnering with private owners who conserve land and expand stewardship to more than City-owned land.
- Finding more ways to not just conserve open space but expand it as well.

The Plan was created over a year across three planning phases with many collaborators and broad public input:

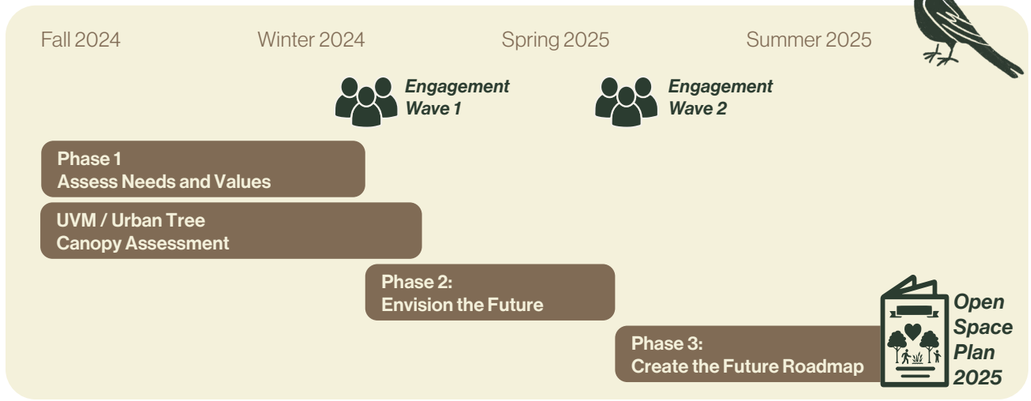
Phase 1: Assess Needs and Values

The first phase centered on understanding the history and current state of Burlington's open spaces. It assessed open space needs and values of the community.

Stakeholder focus groups were held to understand the most prominent issues faced by those whose work centers around open spaces, and the community shared their hopes and concerns for the future at events throughout Winter of 2024/2025.

In tandem, the University of Vermont's Spatial Analysis Lab conducted a Tree Canopy Assessment. The assessment included analysis of the city's land cover and the patterns and distribution of tree canopy changes over ten years (from 2014 to 2023). Findings were shared with the public and are incorporated throughout the Open Space Plan.

Project Schedule



Phase 2: Envision the Future

Building on the community's stories and stakeholder input, the second phase envisioned the future and turned feedback into a draft policy vision with implementation steps. The vision was shared back with the community and stakeholders for input in Spring of 2025.

Phase 3: Create the Future Roadmap

Finally, the last phase created the future roadmap–this plan–that is guided by a vision statement and four key goals that reflect the core planning goals expressed by the community and stakeholders alike.

Role of the Comprehensive Plan

The City is issuing a new comprehensive plan that will integrate municipal, mobility, economic development, and parks planning. Some issues raised during the open space planning process span these other realms and, while important to open space, will be investigated in more depth in the comprehensive plan. These include:

- Advance planning around the use of City-owned open spaces for shelter by people experiencing homelessness to ensure ecological health and integrity, public safety, and equitable access, while also planning for equitable access to permanently affordable housing for all Burlington residents.
- Growing public access to nature-based experiences.
- Strategies for improvements in multi-modal access to the Intervale.

Community Input

“Open Space is for the people of Burlington–present and future.”
- 2000 Open Space Protection Plan

The Burlington community has been an integral collaborator throughout crafting this plan update, from the broad vision to the most specific action. In addition to meetings with the Planning Commission, Conservation Board, Parks Commission, and the City Council’s Parks, Arts, and Culture Committee, the Open Space Plan project team hosted 24 events across two waves of engagement in 2025: the first in January and February centered around visioning and open space stories, and the second in May and June focused on the plan framework and policy recommendations. In both waves, the project team shared details about the Plan and process to gain informed feedback from residents. Each wave included in-person events and online engagement to reach a broad audience. Some of these events included Wintervale, Sea Caves skating, farmers markets, and Beach Bites. A complete list follows on the next page.

All quotes were gathered from the community during engagement events or in surveys.

“Everybody should have access to fresh air and natural spaces!”

“Open spaces help build community.”

24 events across six months

3 school groups engaged

“Education of our youth is key–the entire city is a classroom!”

“I love this community and our commitment to open spaces.”

125 open space stories shared

“Open spaces are free, beautiful, connected places to gather and learn.”

146 hot dogs + **28** veggie dogs served

>20 organizations connected

“Create a community and culture of respect and reciprocity.”

12 stakeholder focus groups

“Green spaces are tied within the fabric of the city.”

>230 online survey respondents

Outreach Events

Wave 1: Visioning and Open Space Stories

Date	Event
November 19, 2024	Stakeholder meetings
November 20, 2024	Stakeholder meetings
January 23, 2025	New North End Plan Kickoff
January 24, 2025	Stakeholder make up session
January 25, 2025	Winter Farmers Market
January 25, 2025	Sea Caves skating event
February 7, 2025	Winterlude
February 12, 2025	BHS City Lake Semester
February 18, 2025	Trusted Community Voices
February 12, 2025	Wintervale
February 25-26, 2025	UVM Davis Center with campus EcoReps
March 1, 2205	Library Book Sale
March 3, 2025	Azizza Malik's 5th Grade Class
March 12, 2025	Sarah Brown's 5th Grade Class

Wave 2: Plan Framework and Recommendations

Date	Event
May 13, 2025	Stakeholder meetings
May 14, 2025	Stakeholder meetings
May 14, 2025	Open Space Open House
June 6, 2025	Ward 6 NPA
June 7, 2025	Twilight Block Party
June 12, 2025	Ward 2 NPA
June 14, 2025	Farmers Market
June 17, 2025	ONE Farmers Market
June 19, 2025	Ward 5 NPA
June 25, 2025	Leddy Park Beach Bites
June 25, 2025	Wards 4 & 7 NPA

Community Perspectives on Open Space Opportunities

When asked about hopes for the future, the community answered:

Importance of Burlington's open spaces

- A Ecosystem Services
- B Human Health and Wellbeing
- C Flooding in Food Growing Spaces

Balancing needs for people and nature

- A Open Space is Integral to a Thriving City
- B Connections to Nature
- C Balance Growth and Open Space Preservation

Providing a variety of experiences

- A Open Spaces Support Social Interaction
- B Bolster the Local Economy and Make Burlington a Destination

Stewardship and climate resilience

- A Connections to Nature
- B Diverse Experiences
- C Mitigating Climate Change

When asked about concerns, the community answered:

Importance of Burlington's open spaces

- A Irregular Quality of Park Spaces
- B Pollution in Open Spaces
- C Flooding in Food Growing Spaces

Balancing needs for people and nature

- A Preserve Open Space While Meeting Housing and Other Needs
- B Maintaining momentum for ongoing care and preservation of open spaces

Providing a variety of experiences

- A Waitlist for Community Gardens
- B Park Rule Breakers
- C Physical Access for Persons with Disabilities

Stewardship and climate resilience

- A Funding for Maintenance, Conservation, and Protection
- B Impacts of Pollution and Aggressive Introduced Species

When asked how they feel and what activities they do when in open spaces, the community answered:

When in Burlington's open spaces, I feel...

Peace, Calm, Happy, Energized, Relaxed, Connected

When in Burlington's open spaces, I like to...

Walk, Swim, Bike, Hang with Friends, Boat, Enjoy the Lake

When in Burlington's open spaces, I am...

Active, Restful, In Community

When I think about Burlington's open spaces, the thing I think about most is...

connecting with nature, wildlife habitat, community character, recreation, clean water and air, growing food, climate resilience

Takeaways from common themes:

Burlington's parks and open spaces are intertwined and support healthy air, water, people, and wildlife.

There are pressures from development and housing demands that need to be **balanced with future open space investments.**

Natural spaces should be **accessible for all and support a range of experiences** and activities.

Healthy open spaces **connect us to nature and support a climate ready future,** so it is our job to protect and maintain them.

History of Open Space Use and Protection

Burlington has a long history of open space use and protection, stretching back to pre-colonial times and continuing to today. While there were times when forests were cleared and pollution was common, over the past decades Burlingtonians have prioritized the importance of nature is to the city.

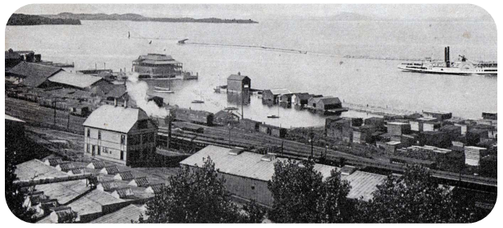
A Pre-1700s

Swanton Corner-Notched points from the John Bridge's Site, Swanton VT, est. BC 7000-6000
Source: The Journal of Vermont Archaeology

Early Inhabitants

Indigenous Groups: For hundreds of years, the Abenaki people have inhabited and stewarded the land in the northeastern US and Canada. In and around modern-day Burlington, they grew beans, corn, and squash in the rich agricultural soil of the Winooski Floodplain.

B 1700s to 1800s



Burlington's Waterfront, 1800s.
Source: University of Vermont

Resource Extraction

In the mid-1700s, colonists arrived and farmed the floodplain to support their communities. Some forests were cleared for new farmland.

In the 1800s, Burlington became a trading hub. More forests were cleared for lumber, farmland, and grazing land. The waterfront was lined with lumber yards, train companies, power generating plants, and water pumping facilities.

C Early 1900s

Logging in Vermont, 1900s.
Source: VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation

Industrialization and Ecological Decline

In the early 1900s, the Industrial Revolution ramped up across the US, and factories and coal gas plants popped up across Burlington, including the Barge Canal. Farming in the Intervale declined, and some of Intervale's land became dumping grounds for refuse.

D Mid 1900s

Gardening at the Intervale, 1980s.
Source: Vermont Community Garden Network

Environmental Movement

By the 1970s, the environmental movement was in full swing. Oil tanks on the waterfront were phased out and removed as part of a long-term waterfront plan. Conservation efforts began with the Winooski Valley Park District's acquisition of land and lake shoreline. Tommy Thompson's "Gardens for All" began to reclaim some of the farmland that had previously been lost and set up community gardens.

E 1900s and early 2000s

The Urban Reserve, 1990s.
Source: City of Burlington

Codifying Conservation

In the 1990s, residents called for more conservation efforts to protect natural areas in and around the City. The City purchased 40 acres of land now known as the Urban Reserve.

In the early 2000s, Burlington passed the city's first Open Space Protection Plan, becoming a pioneer among US cities to plan for the future of its green spaces. The Plan included the creation of the Conservation Legacy Fund and was closely followed by the Urban Forestry Master Plan.

F 2020s to today!

Burlington City Hall rain garden, 2020.
Source: Burlington Free Press

Planning for Climate and Equity

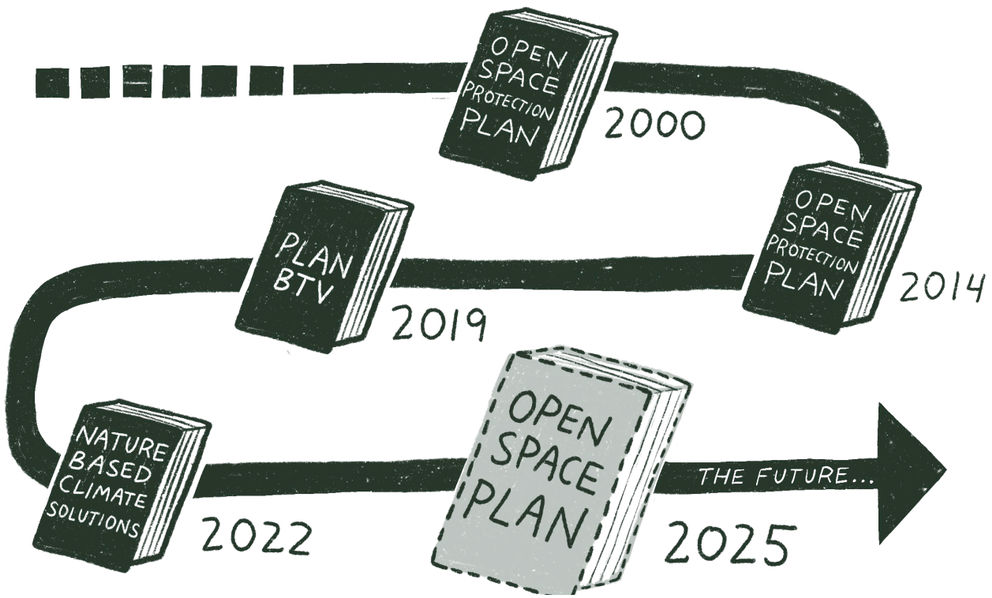
2020s: The City shifts open space planning to focus on equity, accessibility, and fighting climate change with "Nature Based Climate Solutions". Burlington recognizes that a thriving human community is necessary to protect existing natural areas, restore ecosystems, and steward natural resources for a green future.

Legacy of Open Space Planning

Burlington's original Open Space Protection Plan was adopted in 2000.

The Plan grew out of a 1997 City Council Resolution calling for the creation of "a plan to protect important natural areas and open spaces" and had a variety of goals related to identifying, protecting, and preserving the City's natural areas and open spaces. The Plan also created the Conservation Legacy Fund, which is still in use today. It was a visionary plan that grew from a long history of open space stewardship in Burlington and laid a foundation for both Burlington and other cities to protect their futures.

The City's 2014 Open Space Protection Plan Update inventoried open space lands and characterized them with respect to natural areas, urban agriculture, parklands, and green infrastructure. The 2014 Plan also assessed the proximity of residents to existing open space amenities such as community gardens, parks, and the waterfront. The tactical nature and updated goals of the Plan can be used to identify underserved areas of the city and to determine the best places for open space protection and related open space amenities like community gardens and parklands.



Burlington continued to further the goals of the Open Space Protection Plan in 2022 through the adoption of "Nature Based Climate Solutions: An Addendum to the Burlington Open Space Protection Plan". This addendum was written to further the goals identified in earlier plans, including the Open Space Plan and PlanBTV: Burlington's Comprehensive Plan, while specifically identifying nature-based solutions that will combat climate change. It focuses on climate change and equity and is built on the inextricable link "that a thriving human community is necessary if we want to ensure thriving ecosystems."

"Burlington's citizens, non-profits, and government have a proud tradition of protecting what is important to them and what sets Burlington apart - its sense of place, natural environment, open spaces, and recreational opportunities

As needed growth continues, a comprehensive plan to protect the city's most vulnerable natural areas and significant open spaces becomes a necessity."

- 2000 Open Space Protection Plan

Conservation Legacy Fund

In 2002, the City adopted its first Open Space Protection Plan. It was designed to acknowledge and reflect the high value Burlington's citizens saw in the city's diverse natural areas—and it put forward strategies to uphold and improve stewardship of these irreplaceable lands and waters.

One of the central recommendations of this plan was the creation of the Conservation Legacy Fund. This recommendation went before the voters in November 2002. The ballot question read:

> *"Shall the tax rate ceiling in Sec. 99 of the City Charter be amended by increasing it one (1) cent upon the dollar of the property grand list, from 38.88 cents to 39.88 cents, and shall the voters recommend authorizing the appropriation of such increase to be placed in a special revenue account under the name of the Burlington Conservation Legacy Fund, the purpose of which is the purchase and protection of important natural areas and open space."*

The ballot item passed with 70% approval.

This fund was created to:

- **Fund Land Acquisition** and long-term protection of natural areas, open spaces, and greenspaces through acquisition by the City and other interested parties.
- Support **Long-Term Stewardship**, including the development and implementation of management plans, for natural areas and open spaces in the City. Some of these areas were to be permanently managed by the City of Burlington's Conservation Legacy Program as Urban Wilds.
- Develop and support **Conservation Education Programs** administered under the Burlington Conservation Legacy Program.

Since its inception, the Conservation Legacy Fund has achieved many of the goals set out by the original open space plan. These achievements include:

- Creation and funding of a City Land Steward staff position in 2005.
- Creation of a Conservation Field Coordinator position in 2023, with 50% of the funding for the position coming from the fund.
- $1.7 million invested in land acquisitions and easement purchases conserving 236 acres at 10 locations in the City.
- $4.2 million additional dollars raised as matching funds.

In 2022, a Nature-Based Climate Solutions Addendum was added to the Open Space Protection Plan. To address the threat that climate change poses to the health of the city's natural areas and to support the role that ecosystems play in ameliorating the effects of a warming climate, the Addendum identified nature-based goals and strategies aimed at resiliency in a fast-warming world.

To support this work, the Conservation Legacy Fund expanded its purview the same year. A percentage of the Conservation Legacy Fund was made available in 2023 to provide funds for a new annual Conservation Legacy Grant program. The program is competitive and has provided financial support to local climate initiatives including invasive species management, native pollinator habitat restoration, collective gardening, and native tree nurseries. In the first two years of this innovative program, $332,060 were dispersed in support of seven local nature-based climate solution projects.

The Conservation Legacy Fund has been a noteworthy force in protecting natural areas and keeping the city healthy, ecologically rich, and green.

However, unlike other dedicated city funds, the way this fund was laid out means that it does not grow as the city's grand list grows. Its relative worth declines with every year.

Looking ahead, there is a sustained need within Burlington for the Conservation Legacy Fund to continue to fund land acquisition, conservation education and nature-based climate solutions. But the fund also needs to be broadened to support conservation infrastructure within the city's green spaces. Community assets—such as trails, wetland boardwalks, and improved connectivity for enhanced and managed access to our spaces—are needed, and the Conservation Legacy Fund provides a powerful tool and opportunity to meet these needs.

Conservation Legacy Fund Preserved Lands

Derway Cove

Arms Forest

Forest at Appletree Point

Rock Point

Arthur Park

Kieslich Park

Archibald Neighborhood Garden

Growing Open Space and Stewardship

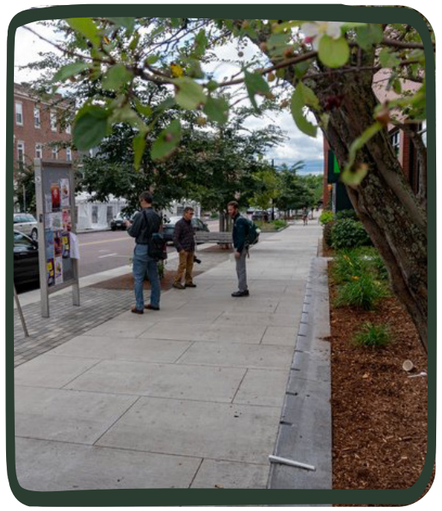
In recent years, the City of Burlington and other partners have continued to expand open space and increase stewardship. Here are a few examples...

Northbend Orchard on Manhattan Drive

In 2020, residents on Manhattan Drive petitioned the city to plant fruit trees and move boulders to bring more life into a roadside grassy median. It was converted from a space with no ecological or community purpose to a no-mow zone that reestablishes habitat, attracts pollinators, and increases tree canopy.

St. Paul Street Green Infrastructure

As part of the Great Streets Initiative, St. Paul Street saw a major overhaul in 2018 that combined pedestrian-bicyclist initiatives with green stormwater infrastructure. Corner bumpouts made intersections shorter and more visible for pedestrians and widened sidewalks became more comfortable while rain gardens, permeable pavers, and soil cells guide runoff to flow into the stormwater system.



Conservation Legacy Grants

The Conservation Legacy Grant is an annual grant program to grow Nature-Based Climate Solutions in Burlington. Since its inception, grants have been awarded to individuals and groups to complete projects in the city that address strategies and actions identified in the Addendum's Implementation Matrix for at least two of the Addendum's six core principles.

Grow Wild Native Plant Giveaway

Grow Wild–a part of Burlington Wildways–has now run its third annual native plant giveaway in collaboration with the University of Vermont. The program gave away over 1,300 seedlings in 2025. Planting native plants to enhance native pollinator and insect diversity is a nature-based solution that can strengthen the local environment and help mitigate effects of climate change.

Burlington City and Lake Semester

Run out of Burlington High School, the Burlington City and Lake Semester program treats the city as its classroom to "explor[e] the people, places, problems and possibilities of our community." Its curriculum covers a wide breadth of topics. Those pertaining to open space have included native species restoration, climate resilience tree-planting with Burlington Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department, and restoring reptile habitat at Delta Park.

North Shore Natural Area

2

Burlington's Open Spaces Today

The city has many types of open spaces, from large parks to backyards. Together, these open spaces create networks that support people and wildlife.

What is Open Space?

“Open space” describes areas that are green and have natural elements, like plants and animals. They are used by people for many reasons, including both active and passive recreation, play, leisure, and growing food. Environmentally, they’re critical for wildlife and for climate resilience. In cities, they provide residents with a connection to nature.

Typically, open spaces in cities are thought of primarily as parks, trails, water bodies, and natural areas. Burlington has an abundance of these that are frequented by residents and visitors alike, from the smallest Smalley Park to the trail-filled and mostly wild Arms Forest. While some cities’ waterfront land is for private use only, much of Burlington’s publicly-accessible open spaces line waterways like Lake Champlain and the Winooski River–evidence of the city historically stewarding open space for public enjoyment and conservation.

There’s more to Open Space than we think...

There are lots of other types of green spaces to care and plan for. Many other open spaces also contribute to Burlington’s open space network, providing home to our city’s wildlife and providing ecosystem services that we all benefit from.

Burlington’s unique landscape includes working lands (such as the Intervale Center and community gardens), private open space, and other green spaces. Smaller spaces, such as lawns, pocket parks, and green infrastructure, can also be important interstitial pieces of the overall open space network.

The ecological and environmental health of our city is not limited to public land. Water flows and wildlife move seamlessly cross parcel boundaries, and 38% of our urban forest sits on private residential parcels. This Plan aims to guide actions by the City of Burlington, while also offering ways other partners and residents can also support open space stewardship.

Burlington like other many communities in the United States, is facing an increase in humans using open spaces as shelter. While this plan is not designed to directly address houselessness, it recognizes the impacts on open space functionality today. This plan will require collaboration with other City plans to get people re-housed.

A Natural Areas

Derway Island, Arms Forest, Rock Point

B Parks

Waterfront Park, Calahan Park, Schifilliti Park

C Trails + Greenways

Ethan Allen Park, Burlington Greenway

D Water Bodies

Lake Champlain, Winooski River, Englesby Brook

E Working Lands

The Intervale Center, Starr Farm Garden

F Private Open Spaces

University of Vermont, Rock Point

G Other Green Spaces

Yards, pocket parks, green infrastructure

Types of Open Space

Burlington is unique in the rich diversity of its open space. While it has those typically found in urban areas–parks and playgrounds–it also has many natural communities of statewide significance in natural areas like Derway Island and water bodies like Lake Champlain and the Winooski River. Burlington's open space network is not complete without areas that are not typically found in an urban space plan: working lands, private open spaces, and other open spaces. Planning for all types of open space is important to ensure a connected network of open spaces and tree canopy.

Parks

Parks are areas used primarily by people for recreation and gathering. They vary greatly in size: some are many acres large, like Leddy Park, while others are a small patch of grass on a street corner, like Dewey Park. Their amenities also vary greatly: they may include benches, water features, playgrounds, ballfields, and skate parks.

Water Bodies

Water bodies include natural or man-made lakes and streams. They form a network of waterways connected to watersheds and the region that serve important ecological functions–including circulating water throughout natural areas and bringing water to wetlands and floodplains. They are also commonly enjoyed recreationally for swimming, kayaking, and other water-based activities.

Natural Areas

Natural areas are lands with outstanding natural resources that function with little maintenance from people. These include forests, wetlands, and wildlife habitats. They may have trails and limited amenities and are generally not intensely managed. In addition to serving ecological functions, they also provide people with direct connections to the natural world. Some natural areas include Derway Island, Arms Forest, Rock Point, and Centennial Woods.

Trails + Greenways

Many natural areas and parks have paths used by people for recreation and mobility. They are paved or unpaved, single or multi-modal, through forests or along the water's edge. The Burlington Greenway is among the most well-known and well-loved multi-use paths in the city, stretching from its entire north-south extent along Lake Champlain. The 127 Bike Path serves a similar function on the eastern edge along the Intervale, and many trails connect between them through open space–including some that are part of Burlington Wildways.

Private Open Spaces

While local governments tend to concentrate open space efforts on public land, there is much privately owned land with green space that can also contribute to the ecological health and even sometimes the recreational experience of the community. Collaboration with landowners and actions by private property owners are critical to supporting the overall health of our city's ecosystems.

Examples: University of Vermont, Rock Point, Burlington Country Club

Working Lands

Working lands are considered lands used by people to grow food, maintain orchards, and raise livestock. They can be for personal or commercial use and span small community gardens to large agricultural plots like the Intervale. Having access to local working lands and their products allows communities to be more self-sustaining, relying less on supply chains for sustenance.

Other Open Spaces

In addition to the previously mentioned types, there are other areas–many small ones–that serve or have the potential to contribute to the open space network throughout the city. They are often overlooked as interstitial spaces but, all together, can contribute positively to open space networks. They can include lawns, pocket parks, green infrastructure, planted medians, school yards, vacant lots, and cemeteries.

Open Space Inventory

This map shows the current inventory of open space in Burlington.

It includes the seven types of open space categorized in this plan with the addition of the tree canopy. Shown together, it becomes clear how green the city is. Though not all this land is publicly accessible, we can get a sense of where we can enjoy natural spaces—much of the green space shown is not in an officially designated park, it could be in your backyard.

Find your favorite open space and see what else is nearby!

55 miles trails, paths, greenways

2620 acres tree canopy

2180 acres grass or shrub

300 acres parks

673 acres natural areas Zones

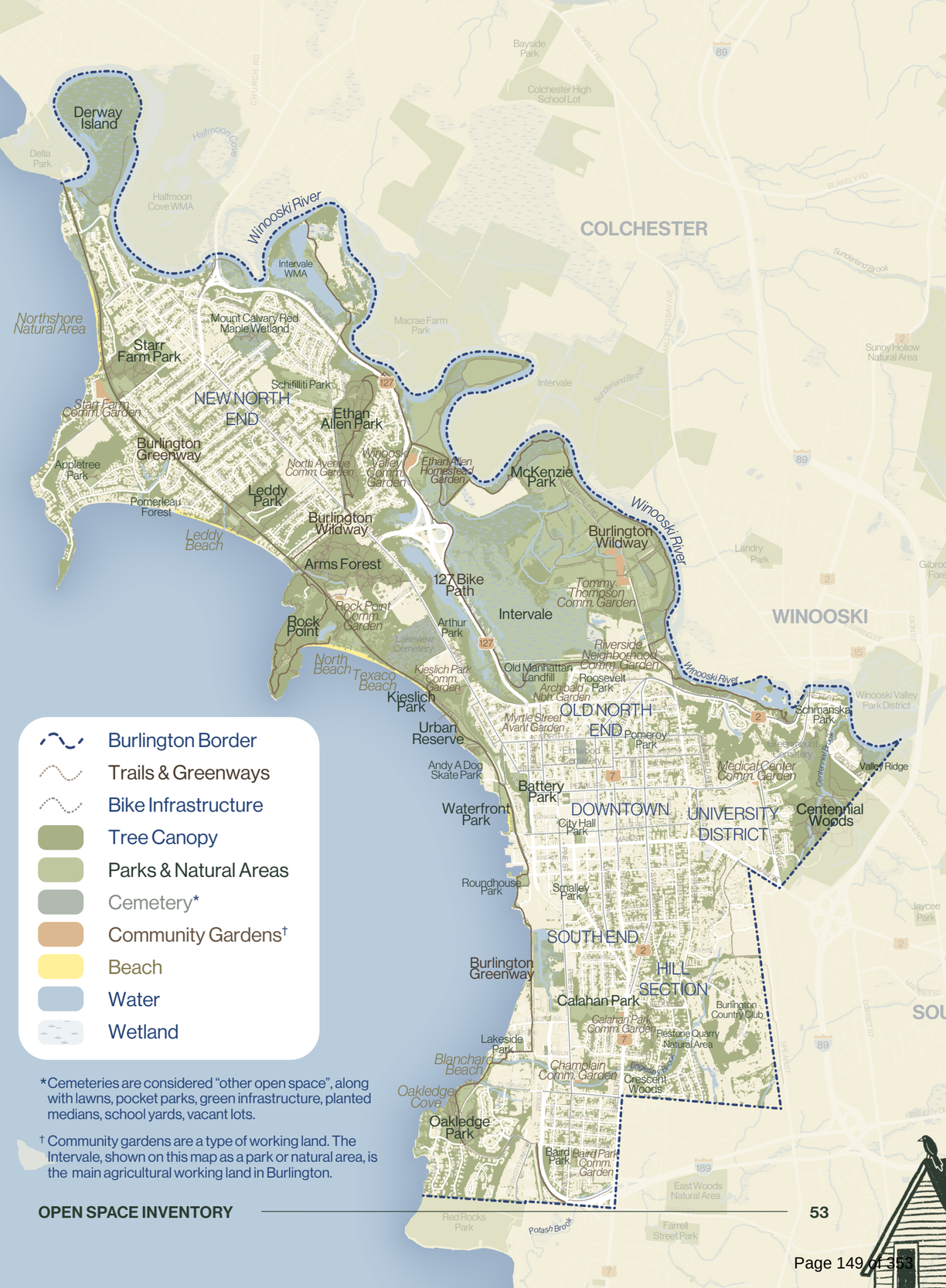
1175 acres Urban Wilds

60 acres cemeteries

50 miles shoreline

380 acres wetlands

18 acres community gardens



*Cemeteries are considered "other open space", along with lawns, pocket parks, green infrastructure, planted medians, school yards, vacant lots.

† Community gardens are a type of working land. The Intervale, shown on this map as a park or natural area, is the main agricultural working land in Burlington.

Burlington's Natural Communities

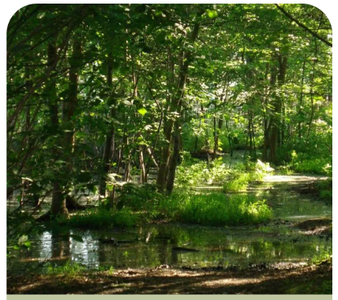
The 2014 Open Space Protection Plan identified several natural communities that comprise most of the natural and semi-natural lands (about 67 percent) of the City's 6,775 acres of undeveloped land and water. The communities listed below represent the majority of the naturalized land surface in Burlington's natural areas and parks.

Dry Red Oak-White Pine Forest
(Dry Oak-Pine Forest)

Small forests on ridgetops, south to west slopes, with thin soil and rocky outcrops.

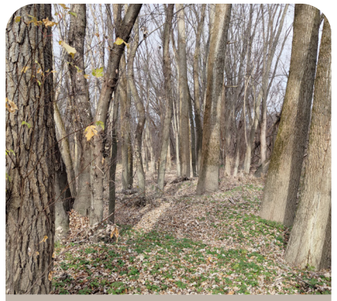
Mesic Pine-Oak Sandplain Forest

Small to moderate-sized forests on gentle slopes and level ground in sandy outwash and lakeplain; most extensive upland forest type in City.



Maple-Green Ash Swamp
(Red Maple Swamp)

Small to moderate-sized depressions in landscape; high water table; floods in spring.



Silver Maple-Sensitive/Maple-Ostrich Fern Floodplain Forest
(Silver Maple Floodplain Forest)

Moderate-sized to large forests in the floodplain of the Winooski River; most extensive forest type in city.

Alder Swamp

Small depressional areas in level to gently sloping landscapes, including floodplains.

Shallow Emergent Marsh Cattail Marsh
(Emergent Marsh)

Low, permanently inundated areas in floodplains and at edges of lakes and rivers.

Burlington's Natural Communities

Natural Community Types

Dry Red Oak-White Pine Forest
(Dry Oak-Pine Forest)

Main Species
- Red oak
- White pine
- Black oak
- Big-tooth aspen
- Hickory

Soil
Farmington extremely rocky loam; Colton and Stetson sand

Major Issues
- Tree regeneration suppression by common buckthorn, Morrow's honeysuckle
- Managing transition from Norway maple and black locust to diverse canopy

Restoration Priorities
- Ensure native tree canopy replacement by controlling structure-altering aggressive introduced species
- Maintain continuous forest canopy cover
- Manage understory shading to support tree seedlings and native shrubs/herbs
- Reduce edge effects by reversing forest fragmentation

Mesic Pine-Oak Sandplain Forest

Main Species
- White pine, oak (red, white, black)
- American beech
- Ironwood
- Eastern hemlock
- Sugar maple
- Red maple
- Black cherry

Soil
Adams and Windsor loamy sand; Hartland very fine sandy loam

Major Issues
- Tree regeneration suppressed by buckthorn (common, glossy), Morrow's honeysuckle, Norway maple
- Managing transition from single-species pine plantations to diverse forest canopy

Restoration Priorities
- Ensure native tree canopy replacement by controlling structure-altering aggressive introduced species
- Maintain continuous forest canopy cover
- Manage understory shading to support tree seedlings and native shrubs/herbs
- Reduce edge effects by reversing forest fragmentation

Maple-Green Ash Swamp
(Red Maple Swamp)

Main Species
- Red maple
- Ash (green, black)
- Oak (black, red)
- Paper birch
- White pine

Soil
Au Gres fine sandy loam (seasonally wet)

Major Issues
- Small size invites aggressive introduced species and over-use
- Alteration of groundwater due to surrounding impervious cover and surface drainage
- Colonization by deep-shade-casting trees and shrubs (e.g, sugar/Norway maple; glossy buckthorn)

Restoration Priorities
- Reduce edge effects by native shrub plantings at margins
- Monitor and manage tree canopy regeneration
- Monitor and manage shrub layer to support native ground layer

Silver Maple-Sensitive Fern Floodplain Forest
Silver Maple-Ostrich Fern Floodplain Forest
(Silver Maple Floodplain Forest)

Main Species
- Silver maple
- Box-elder
- Cottonwood
- Green ash

Soil
Limerick silt loam; Winooski very fine sandy loam; Hadley very fine sandy loam—all types are flooded

Major Issues
- Many aggressive introduced community-altering plant species due to frequent flooding
- Edge effects in narrow bands of forest

Restoration Priorities
- Identify most abundant structure-altering species for control
- Focus control on early infestations of these species
- Reduce edge effects by reversing forest fragmentation

Burlington's Natural Communities

Natural Community Types

Alder Swamp

Main Species
- Speckled alder
- Willow
- Quaking aspen
- Reed canary grass
- Sedges
- Bluejoint reed grass

Major Issues
- Reduced plant and pollinator diversity due to local dominance by reed canary grass

Soil
Covington silty clay (wet), others

Restoration Priorities
- Identify and evaluate candidates for restoration where other plant communities are being restored and managed for the long term

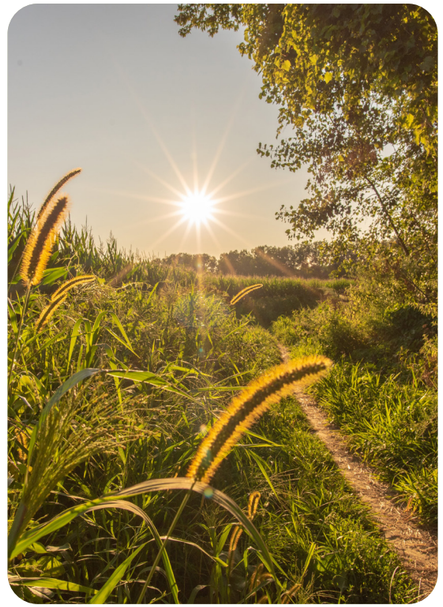
Shallow Emergent Marsh
Cattail Marsh
(Emergent Marsh)

Main Species
- Narrow-leaved cattail
- Giant reed
- Reed canary grass
- Bulrushes
- Sedges

Major Issues
- Dominance by a few plant species
- Low plant and pollinator diversity

Soil
(Unknown)

Restoration Priorities
- Identify and evaluate candidates for restoration where other plant communities are being restored and managed for the long term



Urban Forest Snapshot

The University of Vermont's Spatial Analysis Lab conducted a Tree Canopy Assessment to detect and analyze changes in the city's tree canopy across a ten-year period, from 2014 to 2023. Using LiDAR data and processes developed by the USDA Forest Service, they found that Burlington has 40% tree canopy coverage–relatively stable since 2014 with a 1.6% decrease in ten years.

The change was not consistent across the city's area: some places lost trees (like parts of the New North End, Downtown, and South End) while others gained (like the University District, Intervale, and Rock Point. Tree canopy change was attributed to a number of factors: some losses were individual tree removals on private yards while others were cleared patches for new construction. Growth of existing tree canopy was the biggest contributor to gains.

To aid the city in planning how to maintain or grow tree canopy for the next ten years, the assessment also included analyzing land cover to quantify existing tree canopy, possible tree canopy, and land not suitable for trees. Areas with possible tree canopy could be vegetated areas that do not currently have trees, such as grass or shrub area, or paved areas that could be converted to green, such as bare soil or parking lots. 33% of the city's land area falls into this category–though some, like agricultural land in the Intervale, is not culturally suitable for trees. Combined with local knowledge, this assessment can help the city plan for opportunities to increase tree canopy.

Trees in Burlington

111,912+

Individual trees estimated in 2023

40% tree canopy in 2023

2,630 acres of tree canopy (2023)

Tree canopy is unequally distributed

Change in Tree Canopy (2014-2023)

+228 acres tree canopy **gained**

-337 acres tree canopy **lost**

Absolute Change in Tree Canopy

=

Loss of 109 acres

Net Change in Tree Canopy

That's the equivalent of 18 Battery Parks, 15 Sea Cave skating areas, or 1.5 Ethan Allen Parks!

Urban Tree Canopy Assessment by UVM

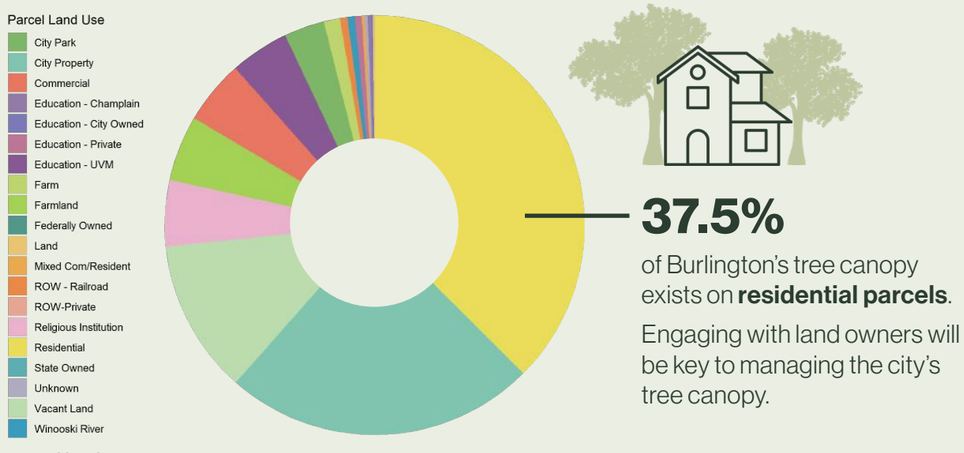
Burlington's urban forest includes a mix of larger patches, smaller patches, and isolated trees. There is no ideal patch size —each patch can be evaluated independently for what it contains and protects.

Larger forests like at Rock Point, Arms Forest, and Ethan Allen Park support a range of local and migrating wildlife.

Urban Forest Snapshot

Urban Forest Today

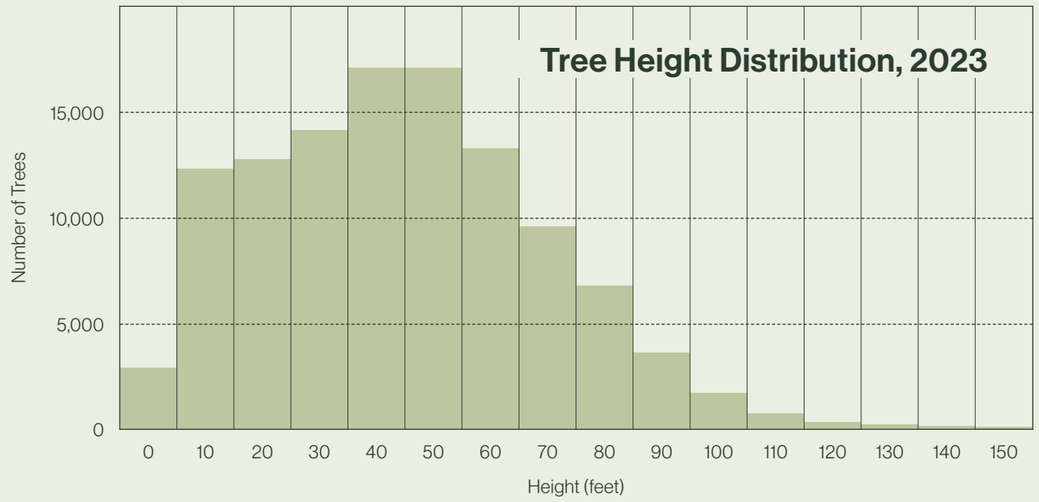
Trees by Land Use



37.5%

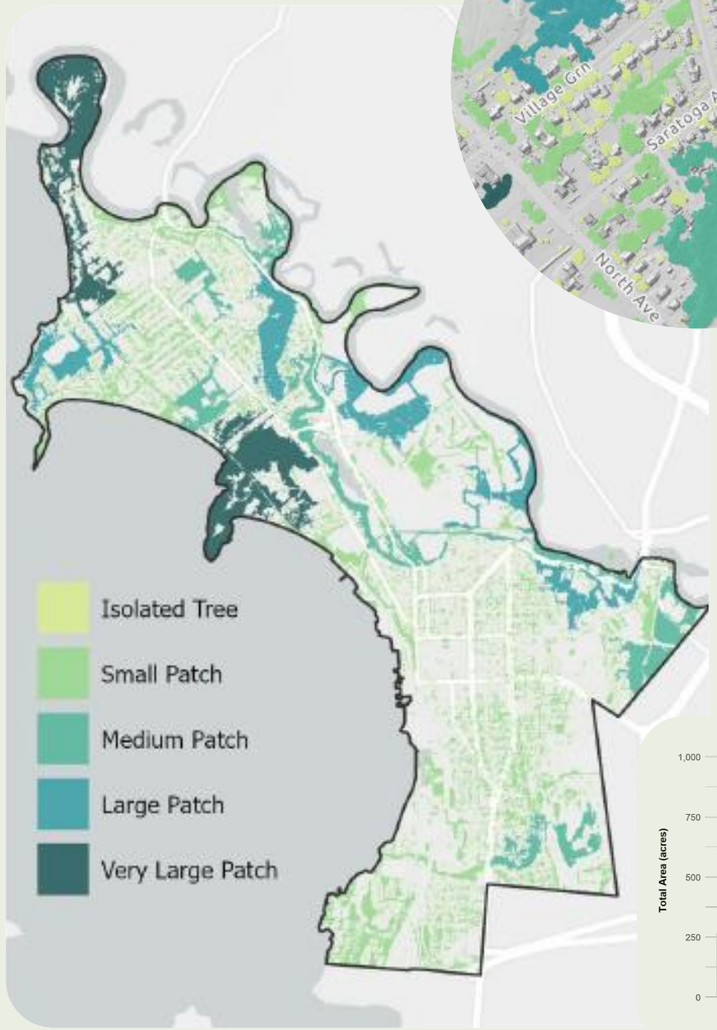
of Burlington's tree canopy exists on **residential parcels**.

Engaging with land owners will be key to managing the city's tree canopy.

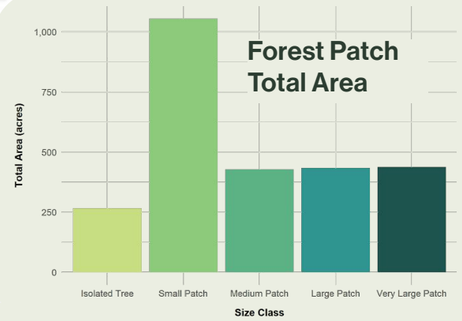


Urban Tree Canopy Assessment by UVM

Forest Patch Sizes



Example close-up of forest patch size classification



Urban Forest Snapshot

Changes in last 10 years

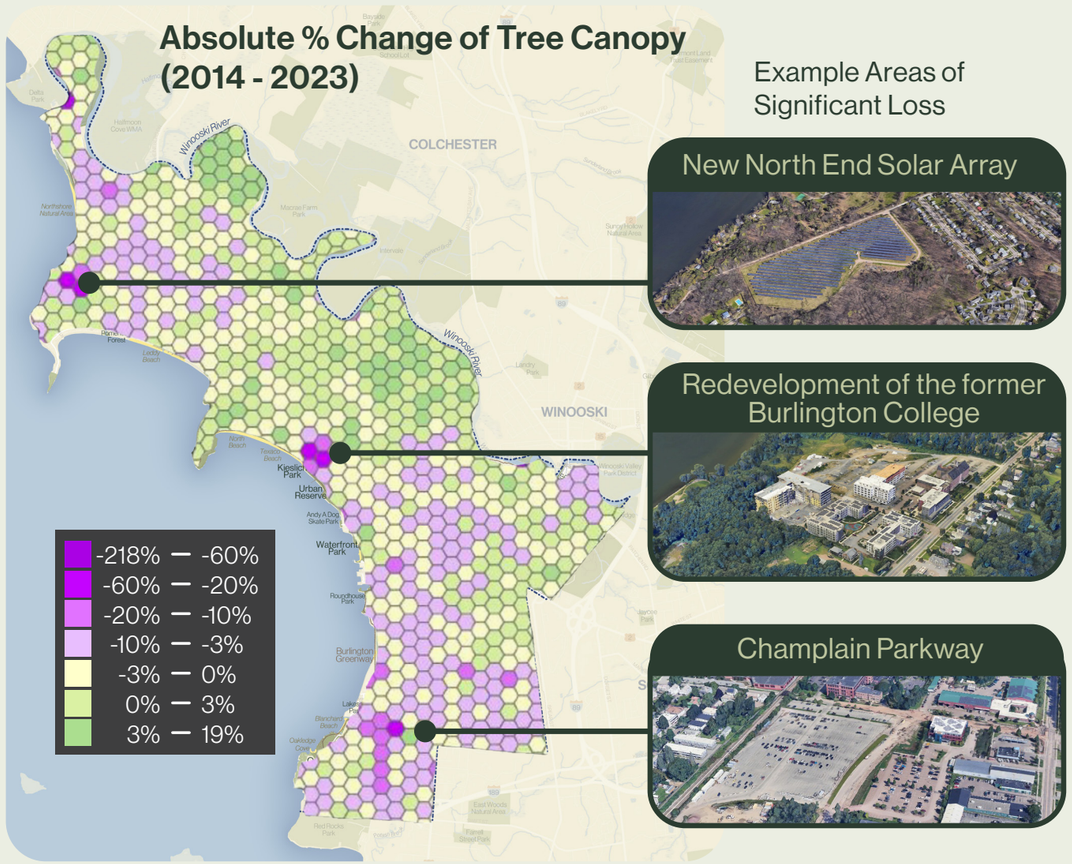
While there is not one singular goal for the urban forest, strategies can involve considering where tree canopy is below the city's average and target those areas to plant new trees.

Losses in tree canopy are outpacing gains, resulting in a net decrease in tree canopy. Burlington has experienced 4% relative loss of tree canopy.

Growth of existing tree canopy is the biggest contributor to Burlington's tree canopy gains.

Changes from 2014-2023

Burlington has experienced a net decrease in tree canopy over the 2014 to 2023 time period, but the story of change is more nuanced, with a mix of loss and gain. All areas of the city experienced both gains and losses of tree canopy, though some areas saw a net increase and others a net decrease. Removal and die off of mature trees resulted in the loss of large patches of tree canopy. Mature trees with large crowns contribute substantially to tree canopy and take decades to grow, so their loss creates large, localized declines in tree canopy. Even though there was evidence of tree loss throughout Burlington, planting efforts, preservation programs, and natural growth helped offset losses and stem decline.



Example Areas of Significant Loss

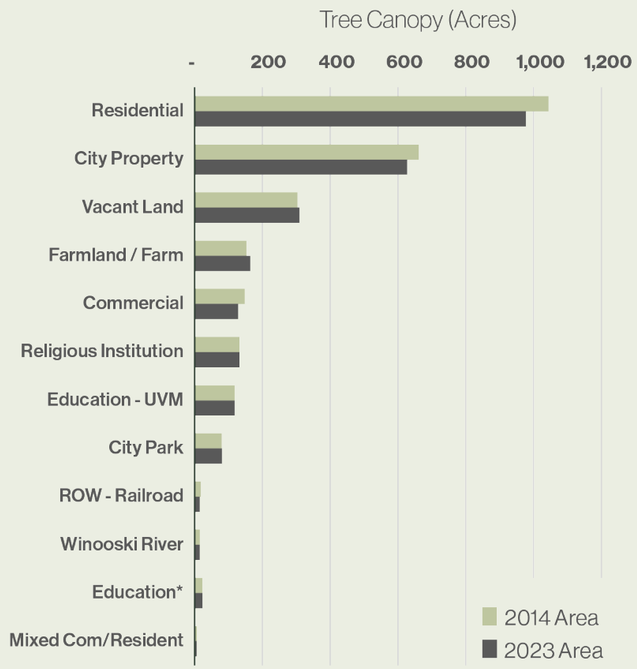
New North End Solar Array

Redevelopment of the former Burlington College

Champlain Parkway

Urban Tree Canopy Assessment by UVM

Tree Canopy Change by Land Use



*Includes Private, Champlain, and City-owned

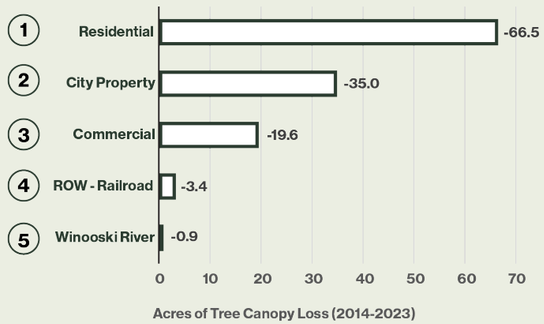
Managing Ash Tree Loss and Planning for a Resilient Urban Canopy

The recent spread of emerald ash borer, which was confirmed in Burlington in July 2024, has led to the removal of ash trees throughout the city. Nearly all ash trees are expected to be affected by the ash borer in the coming years. As ash is the main tree of Burlington's natural areas, this presents a significant challenge for the urban forest and forest blocks both large and small.

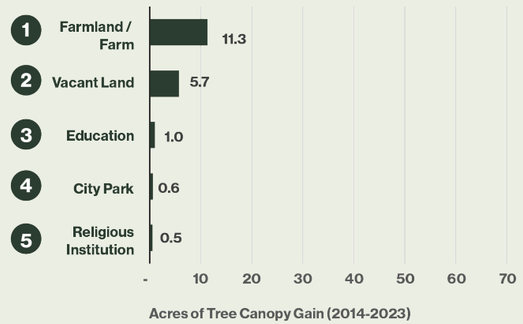
However, in anticipation of this impact, the City initiated an ambitious tree planting program over the past seven years, planting nearly 2,100 new trees across every ward of the city. These plantings were placed in locations with existing ash trees—such as Scarff and Ferguson Avenues, Upper College St., and the Appletree Point neighborhood—in anticipation of canopy loss due to the ash borer.

As more space opens up following ash tree removals, the City will continue to plant a diverse mix of species, aiming to strengthen and sustain a healthier, more resilient urban forest in the future.

Most Tree Canopy Loss



Most Tree Canopy Gain



Oakledge Park

3

Vision and Goals

Building on the original vision from the 2000 Open Space Protection Plan, this chapter reaffirms our city's commitment to stewarding Burlington's open space network and incorporating nature-based climate solutions.

Vision Statement

Burlington is a Nature-Filled City

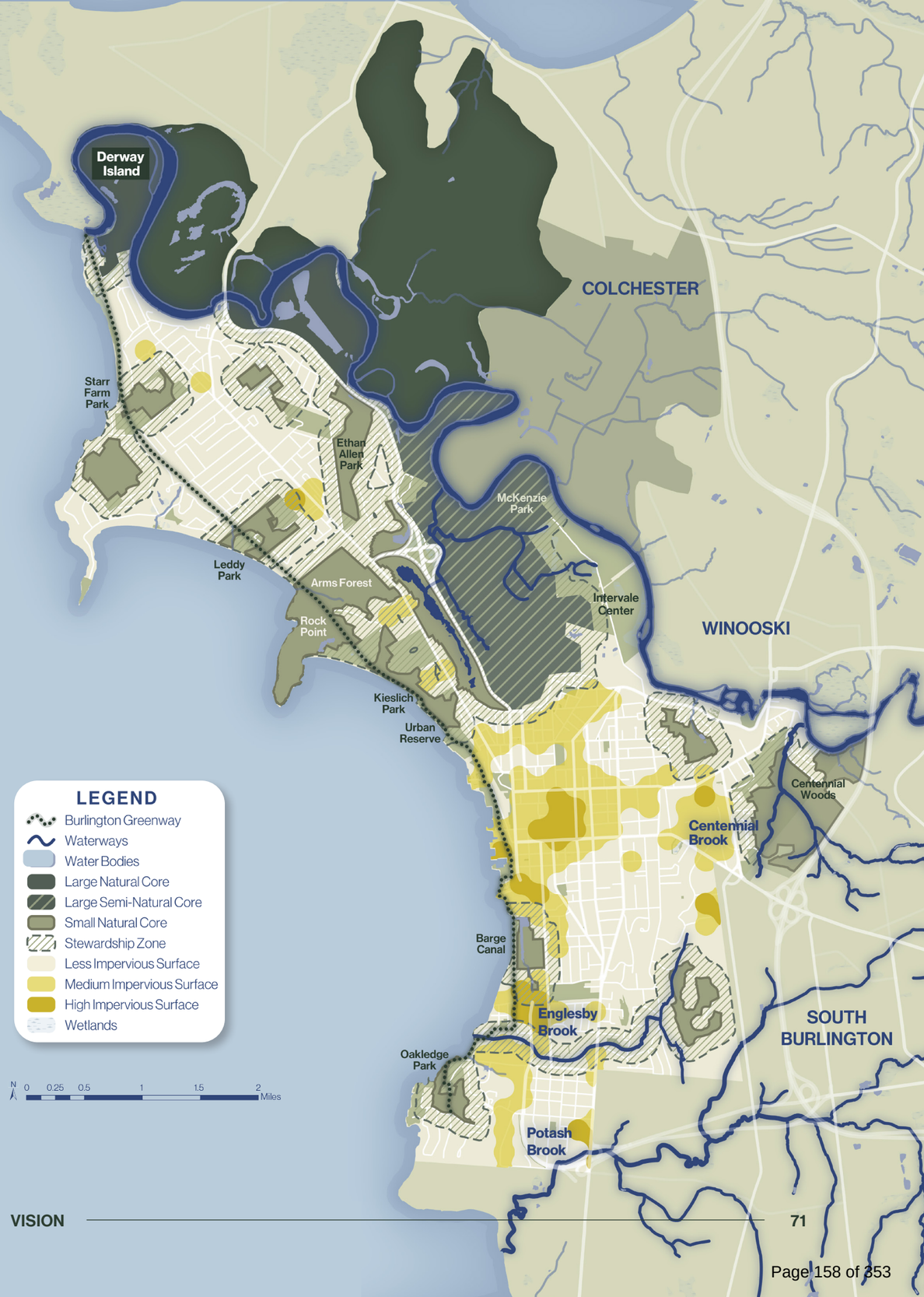
Healthy open spaces that connect lake to river create a linked network where wildlife thrives. Around every corner, there are a variety of natural experiences that can be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. Community gardens and urban farms burst with local produce. Burlington's open spaces invite all to explore, play, and grow—

creating a city where people and ecosystems flourish side by side.

Healthy Connected Ecosystems Framework

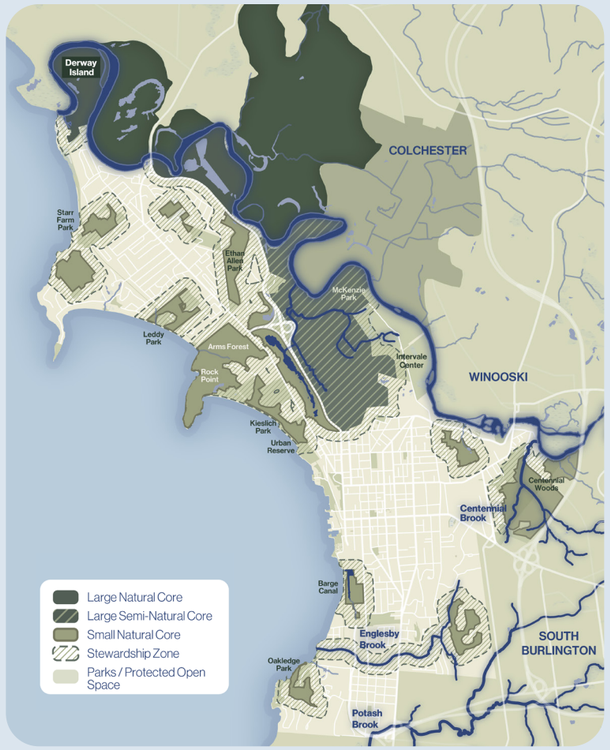
Since the first colonists arrived in Burlington and settled along the shores of what is now Lake Champlain, the city has undergone significant changes to meet the needs of a growing population and shifting industry demands, and the natural ecosystem and wildlife patterns have been impacted by human activity. To reinvest in the city's open spaces, wildlife health, and human connections to nature, the plan outlines a comprehensive, scientifically based ecological framework. The framework's goal is to be widely accessible and actionable by city staff, advocates, and the broader public.

Burlington's healthy ecosystem framework describes the conditions that enable an ecosystem to maintain its structure, function, and ability to recover from change and development. This includes a foundation of protected core natural areas that are large enough and continuous enough to support wildlife that depend upon large natural areas to live. This framework identifies where to prioritize conservation efforts and sustainable resource management to have the greatest impact. It shows where actions in and near open spaces should be considered with a heightened lens for their open space impacts and stewardship opportunities.



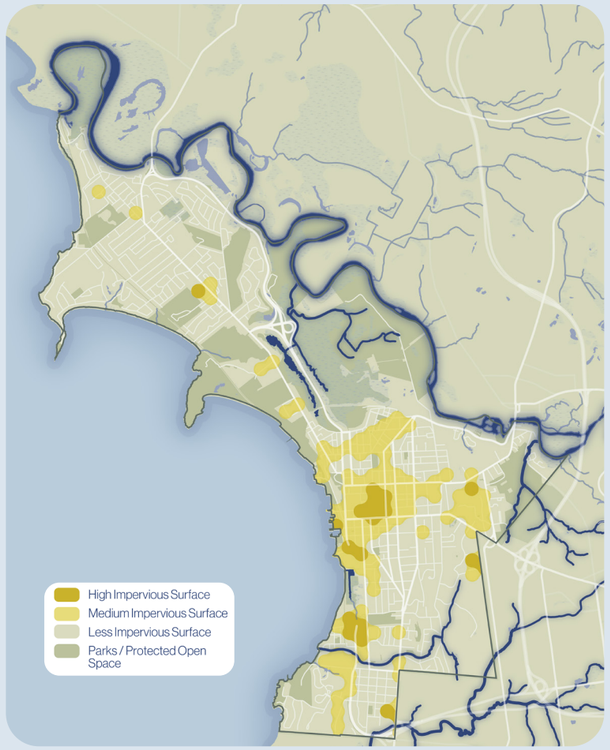
Layers of the Healthy Ecosystems Framework

Core Ecological Areas



Water, Wetlands, and Floodplains

Impervious Surface Density



Tree Canopy

** see Urban Forest Snapshot, CONSERVE, and CONNECT sections for descriptions of these layers*

Goals and Strategies Overview

CONSERVE

Stewarding Burlington's network of protected lands to support healthy ecosystems and a healthy city.

- **CS1** Expand restoration and management city-wide
- **CS2** Support wildlife movement and ecological health
- **CS3** Evolve the Conservation Legacy Fund to be flexible to changing needs
- **CS4** Collaborate to acquire land to protect open space for future generations

CONNECT

Knitting the landscape together through green infrastructure, stewardship, and green design standards.

- **CN1** Grow and celebrate nature-based climate solutions across the city
- **CN2** Cultivate an ecosystem of stewardship
- **CN3** Enhance and protect Burlington's urban forest
- **CN4** Encourage new development to incorporate nature-based principles

EXPERIENCE

Expanding a variety of nature experiences across Burlington.

- **EX1** Increase awareness about Burlington's open spaces
- **EX2** Grow public access to nature-based experiences
- **EX3** Break down barriers to open space access

CULTIVATE

Growing sustainable and accessible local food systems that meet community needs.

- **CL1** Cultivate sustainable and resilient agriculture practices
- **CL2** Expand community gardens
- **CL3** Support the cultivation of alternate food sources

CONSERVE

Stewarding Burlington's network of protected lands to support healthy ecosystems and a healthy city

Mount Cavalry Red Maple Wetland

CONSERVE Overview

Building on a long legacy of open space protection

Burlington's open space network is special because it includes not just urban parks for people to enjoy, but also large natural spaces that are both locally and regionally significant for wildlife and connected to areas outside the city. Expanding on the 2000 Open Space Protection Plan, this update provides a roadmap for ongoing protection, restoration, and management efforts to be undertaken by the city or large land stewards.

CONSERVE Strategies

- **CS1** Expand restoration and management city-wide
- **CS2** Support wildlife movement and ecological health
- **CS3** Evolve the Conservation Legacy Fund to be flexible to changing needs
- **CS4** Collaborate to acquire land to protect open space for future generations

All quotes were gathered from the community during engagement events or in surveys.

CONSERVE
Overview

Burlington's ecosystems depend on healthy waters and a network of ecologically rich preserved lands.

All elements of the natural world are connected. While the relationships that people have with water and land differ vastly, their relationship to each other is inextricable. The flow of water brings nourishment to the land–including through the flooding of floodplains–while runoff from and drainage through land replenishes and enriches the water. Together, they form a network of connected habitats that allow wildlife populations to thrive.

Burlington's abundance of waterways has experienced increasing challenges, including aggressive introduced species and flooding. The CONSERVE goal outlines a framework for shared stewardship to support the long-term health of our city's waters and lands, including through partnerships with "Friends of" groups and conservation districts that may provide technical assistance and funding.

Water, Wetlands, and Floodplains

From urban brooks to the Winooski River to Lake Champlain, water is integral to healthy ecosystems and community life in Burlington. The ecological health of these waterways is largely influenced by actions and land use across their full watersheds, but Burlington and its residents can help by reducing pavement, adding more green spaces, and reducing runoff.

Lake Champlain

Lake Champlain's 12 miles of shoreline on Burlington's western edge is lined with open spaces. Much of Burlington's land area drains directly into the Lake, including via Englesby Brook. Though the lakeshore was once full of industrial plants, it has in many areas returned to a more natural state that many wildlife species call home.

Urban Brooks

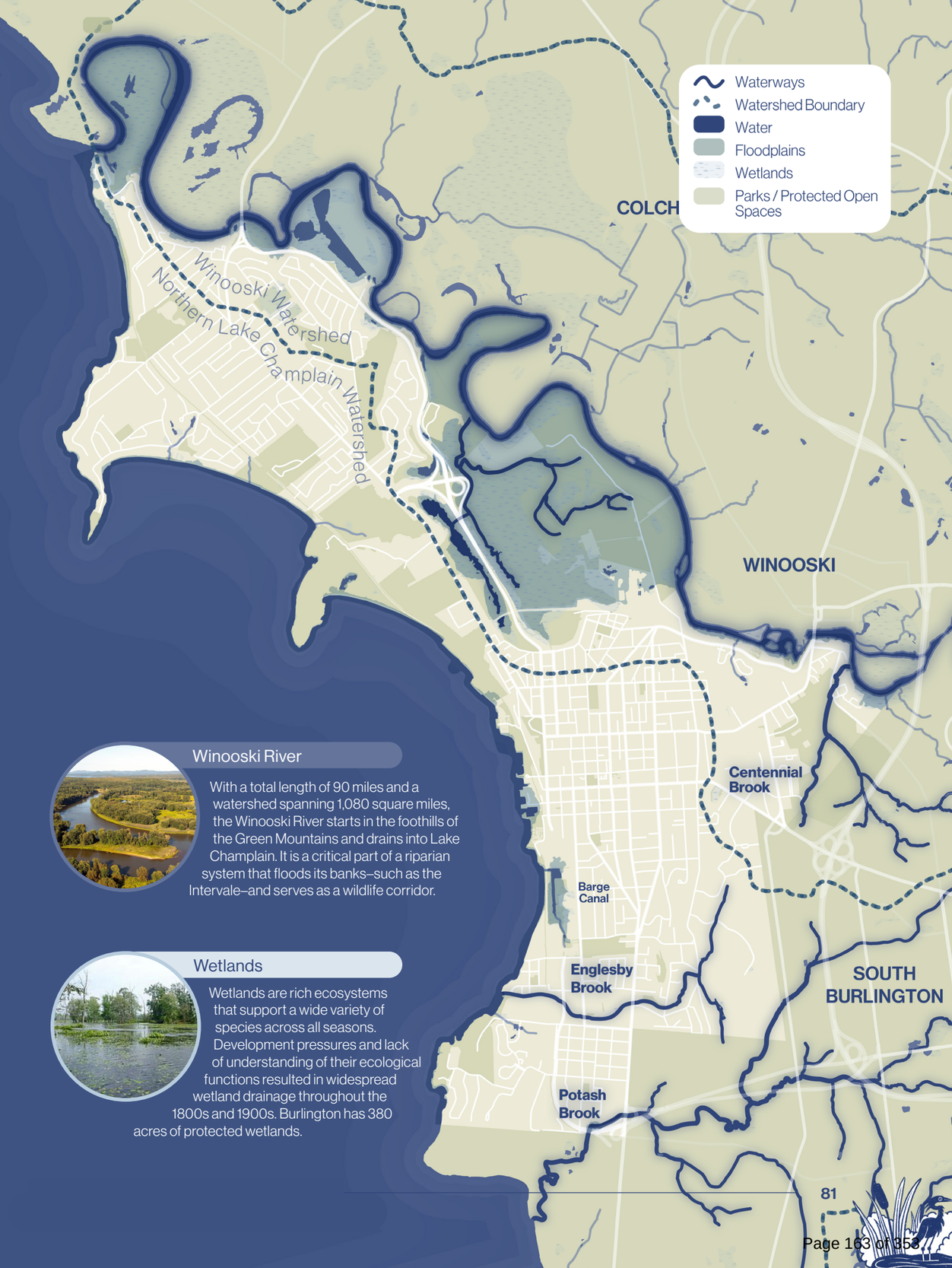
A number of brooks flow through Burlington, such as Centennial, Englesby, and Potash Brooks, and flow into the two watersheds the city is part of. In some areas they are surrounded by tree canopy and open space while in others they abut private properties. The ecological health of some brooks have been impaired—there are on-going stewardship efforts and opportunities to manage issues like erosion and aggressive introduced species.

Winooski River

With a total length of 90 miles and a watershed spanning 1,080 square miles, the Winooski River starts in the foothills of the Green Mountains and drains into Lake Champlain. It is a critical part of a riparian system that floods its banks–such as the Intervale–and serves as a wildlife corridor.

Wetlands

Wetlands are rich ecosystems that support a wide variety of species across all seasons. Development pressures and lack of understanding of their ecological functions resulted in widespread wetland drainage throughout the 1800s and 1900s. Burlington has 380 acres of protected wetlands.



Core Ecological Lands

Burlington's core ecological lands work together to form a network that supports wildlife, cleans air, and absorbs rainfall. These open spaces vary in size and include a range of landscapes, from forests to fields to semi-natural areas, like the Intervale and Starr Farm.

Derway Island

Large Natural Core

Preserve large areas for ecosystem integrity at scale and support regionally uncommon species.

The Intervale

Large Semi-Natural Core

Preserve large mixed natural, semi-natural, and agriculture landscapes for food production and ecosystem integrity.

Oakledge Park

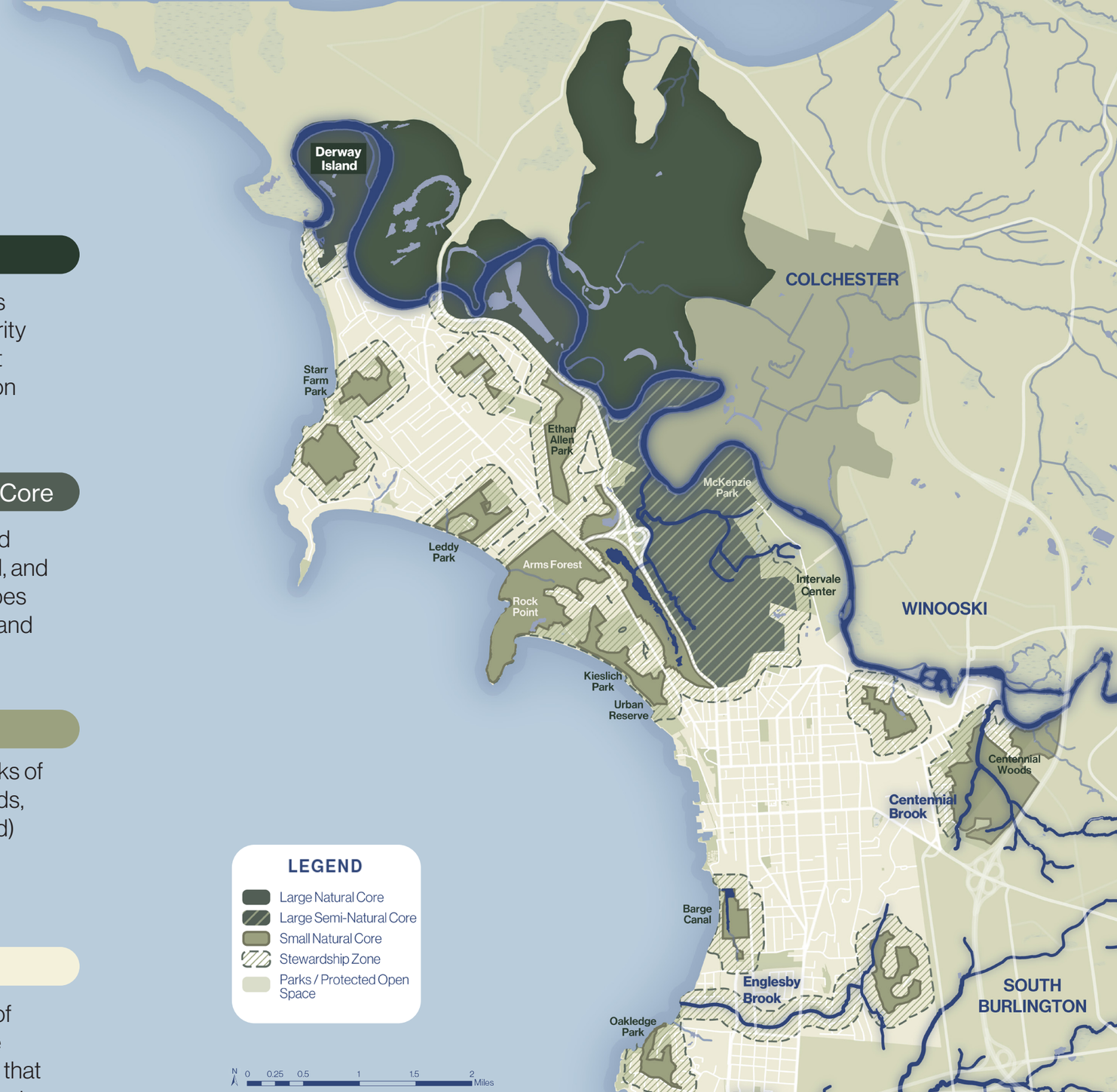
Small Natural Core

Larger isolated blocks of forest (some wetlands, grassland, brushland) embedded in urban landscape.

Manhattan Dr

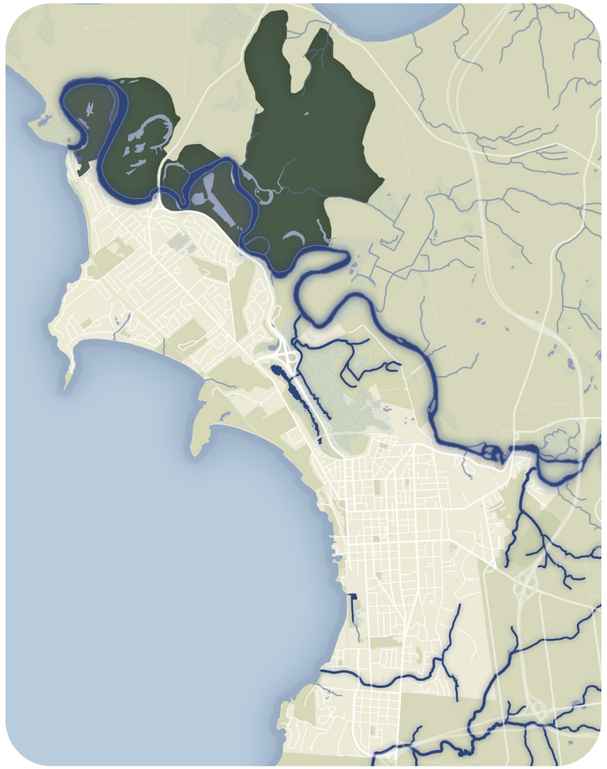
Stewardship Zone

Support neighbors of open spaces to take stewardship actions that reduce the edge effects on nearby core areas.



Large Core Lands

Large Natural Core



PURPOSE
Preserve large areas for ecosystem integrity at scale and support regionally uncommon species.

EXISTING PROTECTIONS
Majority of land in large cores is protected public open space (e.g. Derway Island); floodplain, wetland and natural resource ordinances protect most of remainder.

OPPORTUNITIES
- All combined, over 2000-acre expanse of largely natural land
- Potential habitat for larger or area-sensitive animals (river otter, mink, bobcat)
- Non-public land is largely in state-regulated protected floodplain

BARRIERS TO SUCCESS
- Cross-river collaboration requires working across municipal boundaries
- Challenge of river flooding introducing aggressive introduced plant species
- Edge effects where residences abut natural area

Semi-Natural Agricultural Core

PURPOSE
Preserve large mixed natural, semi-natural, and agriculture landscapes for food production and ecosystem integrity.

EXISTING PROTECTIONS
Almost half in Intervale; some in McKenzie Park and McCrae Farm Park. Floodplain, wetland and natural resource ordinances protect much of remainder.

OPPORTUNITIES
- Some 1700 acres of continuous floodplain, wetlands and uplands in a mosaic of natural and agricultural land
- The Intervale Center is integral to City identity and part of core

BARRIERS TO SUCCESS
- Challenge of cross-river collaboration
- Challenge of river flooding introducing aggressive introduced plant species
- Edge effects where residences and VT 127 abut natural area
- Reducing fragmentation of floodplain forest requires strategic restoration of agricultural land to forest

Small Core Lands

Small Natural/ Semi-Natural Core

PURPOSE
Larger isolated blocks of forest embedded in urban landscape.

EXISTING PROTECTIONS
Some in parks, or protected by natural resource ordinance, or on institutional land with low prospect for development (e.g., Rock Point).

OPPORTUNITIES

- Continuous forest cover and good tree diversity – less canopy underplanting
- Localized aggressive introduced plant invasions (e.g., knotweed, Norway maple) or light/moderate (e.g., buckthorn, honeysuckle) – forest structure less likely to change if addressed now
- Native groundlayer plants – less need for expensive plantings

BARRIERS TO SUCCESS

- Non-targeted interventions expending resources and patience
- Opportunities to strengthen ecosystem management
- Opportunity to enhance long-term stewardship integration with daily operations

Inventory Process

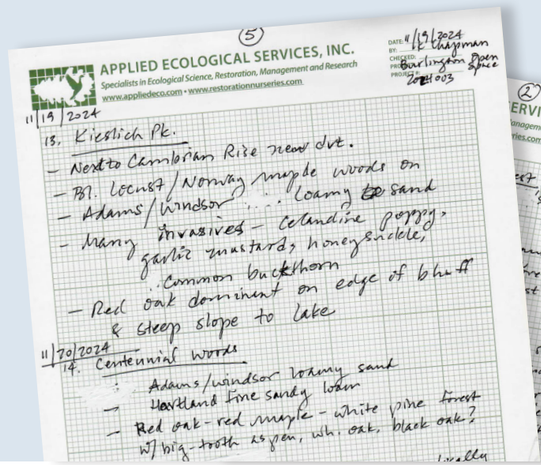
In November 2024, the project team visited 19 sites representing a range of ecosystems in Burlington. The purpose of the site visit was to Identify issues affecting ecological integrity, diversity, and resilience in natural and semi-natural lands .

The sites included:

- Large blocks of natural and semi-natural land
- Public parks
- Smaller, interesting natural areas

Sites visited

Example of field notes from site visits



Core Ecological Lands & Water Resources

Why are Lake Champlain, Winooski River, and other water resources not included on the core ecological area maps?

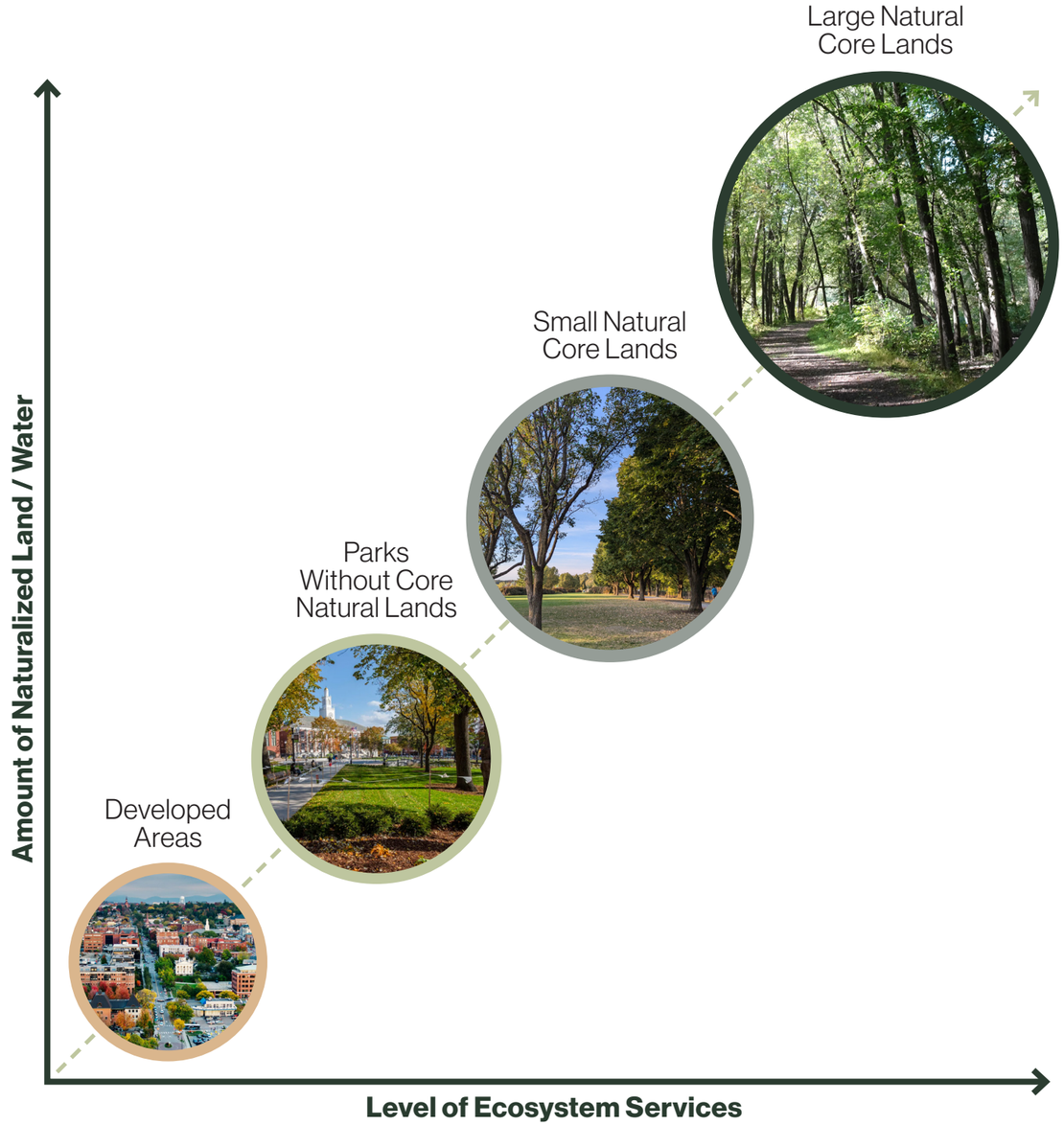
The Open Space Plan focuses on core ecological land areas rather than water bodies, as water constitutes a distinct ecosystem with different management and health considerations. While improving the ecological health of core lands is achievable through targeted management within the area and reducing edge effects in the surrounding 500-600 feet, the management of water bodies is more complex. It requires broader collaboration among multiple property owners across larger areas.

Enhancing the ecological health of water resources depends on watershed-scale action. While this plan does not directly address water bodies, its recommendations—such as expanding tree canopy and promoting green infrastructure—will indirectly benefit local waterways by improving stormwater absorption and filtration. Further study of watershed-scale issues and opportunities could complement the actions outlined in this plan.

Why are some areas of Burlington's parks not shown as core ecological lands?

While all parks provide valuable ecosystem services, such as stormwater absorption and cooling the surrounding area, certain park areas—like parking lots and athletic fields—offer more limited ecological benefits compared to forested or naturalized areas. The core ecological lands map focuses on the most critical places in Burlington for maintaining healthy ecosystems. While parks serve important functions that balance human recreation with ecological needs, not all park areas contribute equally to ecological health.

However, there are opportunities to enhance the ecosystem services in non-core park areas. For example, installing solar shade canopies over parking lots or incorporating green stormwater features along their edges can help reduce heat island effects and improve water quality.



Edge Effects and Stewardship Zones

Development affects nearby natural areas, but we can accommodate growth while strengthening the network of green spaces.

Purpose of Conservation
When thinking of conservation, we take an ecological point of view and envision how to keep the nature we love and avoid damaging it in the future. We think first of the species we'd like our great-grandchildren to see a hundred years from now. These are the common plants, like oaks and pines, and uncommon plants, like orchids and spring wildflowers. Along with these are fungi and soil organisms. Then we turn to generalist wildlife, such as robins, goldfinches, crows, deer, raccoons, foxes, white-footed mice, American toads, garter snakes, bluegills and the fish we usually catch. We also think of habitat specialists and area-sensitive wildlife, like big carnivores and the many warblers and migratory birds that travel thousands of miles to breed here. Lastly, we think of the common and rare insects, many of them pollinators of wildflowers, orchard trees, and crop plants.

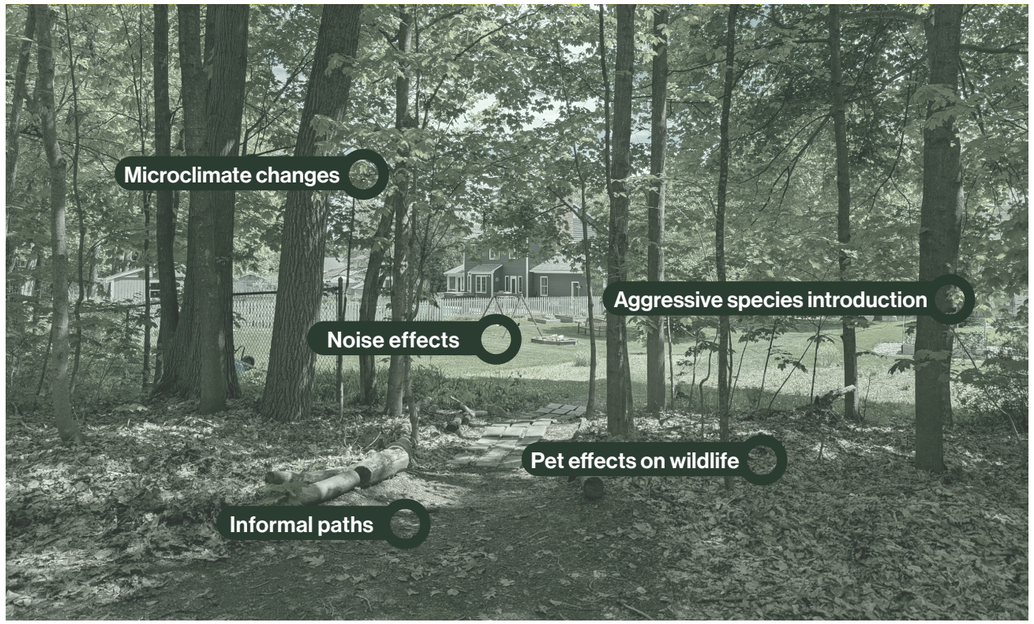
The common plants and wildlife can tolerate and even thrive in cities, towns, and rural lands. They are not the focus of conservation because their populations are usually stable or increasing.

By contrast, uncommon plant and insect species, and wildlife specialists or area-sensitive animals often have declining populations. Many need large and diverse core natural areas to sustain themselves.

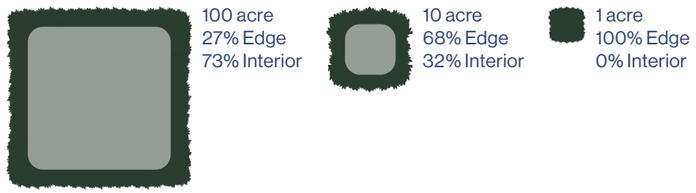
The direct effect on natural areas of conversion to crops and urban or suburban development is well documented. Less obvious are long-term effects from a longer habitat edge compared to the habitat's interior area. Smaller and narrower habitats have more edge than larger, rounder ones.

Edge Effects
Edge effects are damaging influences on core natural areas due to other uses on adjacent lands that penetrate the cores, reducing their suitability for many plant and animal species.

As the length of edge around a natural core grows, interior habitat shrinks. Scientific studies show how far edge effects penetrate into adjacent habitat (see table on next page). For instance, birds and other wildlife can be flushed by people walking on trails up to 150 feet away. Predators like raccoon and house cat will travel several hundred feet into forests and grasslands to prey on bird eggs, nestlings, small mammals and other wildlife. Aggressive introduced plants move from edges into natural areas. Traffic noise, warm and dry air, dust from roads, pesticide drift, and other damaging influences affect nearby natural areas. Management can reduce edge effects. In stewardship zones around natural areas, neighbors can act in ways that lessen edge effects. Where room allows, natural areas can be made more round or protected with native vegetation screens.

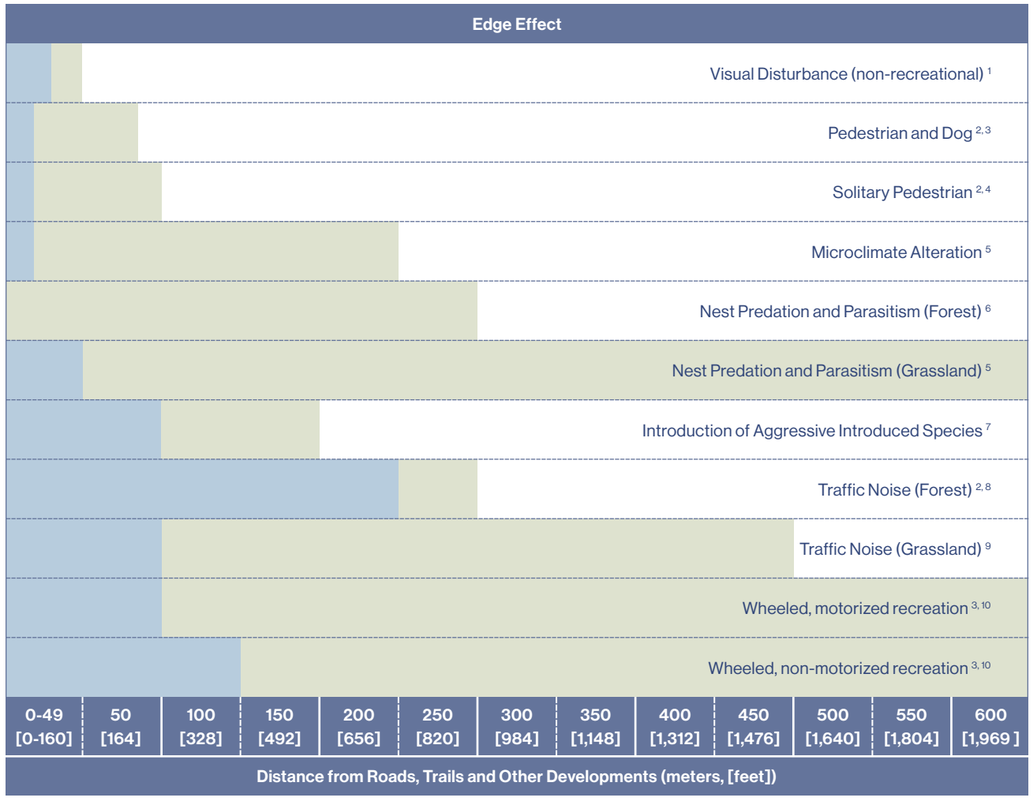


Core/Interior Habitats and Edge Habitats
SOURCE: Bentrup, 2008



Edge Effects and Stewardship Zones

Edge Effect Distances



Distances at which edge effects are in full effect

Range of distances at which edge effects decrease

Distance of Edge Effect Penetration into Adjacent Natural Areas
SOURCE: [1] Fish and Wildlife Service (2006), [2] Miller et al. (2001), [3] Snetsinger and White (2009), [4] Fernandez-Juricic et al. (2005), [5] Environmental Law Institute (2003), [6] Soule (1991), [7] Askins (1995), [8] Reijnen et al. (1995), [9] Reijnen and Foppen (1996), [10] Spahr (1990)

*Unless large natural core near a road with speed limit over 35 mph, then 650 feet or sound barrier recommended

Stewardship Zones: Notify, Educate, Negotiate

Improving Stewardship

The purpose of stewardship zones is to recognize that neighbors of core natural areas play important roles in their health. Stewardship zones are priority areas for providing information and other resources to landowners to increase awareness about how their actions affect the natural function of nearby open spaces and support best practices on their property. These resources may include access to native plantings and possible Conservation Legacy Fund support for neighborhood NBCS efforts.

Backyard Stewardship Zone: 165 feet
Stewardship in this zone reduces most significant negative impacts on natural areas.

- Reduces visual disturbance
- Reduces impacts of pedestrians and pets
- Reduces microclimate alteration
- Reduces introduction of aggressive introduced species
- Reduces traffic noise

Neighborhood Stewardship Zone: 500 feet
Stewardship in this zone further improves health of core natural area.

- Much greater reduction of microclimate alterations, traffic noise, aggressive introduced species introductions, and nest predation

What you can do if you live in a stewardship zone:

- mow your yard less or convert to a wild yard
- grow native plants
- build small-scale green infrastructure
- organize a community garden
- participate in neighborhood-scale nature-based climate solutions

For other tactics related to Stewardship Zones, see actions CN1.2, CN2.3, and CN4.2.

CONSERVE Strategies

STRATEGY 1
Expand Restoration and Management City-wide

Burlington's natural environment is a chief ingredient in the city's character, making it one of the most attractive and inviting small cities in the country. While Burlington enjoys an abundance of open space, totaling almost 50% of its geographic area, the city has been historically striving to take care of these spaces, from protecting nature to cleaning up polluted areas and maintaining parks. The city realizes that when such spaces are disturbed, natural ecosystems eventually degrade. Now, with climate change creating a noticeable impact, it becomes especially important to identify, plan, manage, and restore core open spaces, keeping in mind the needs of the ecosystem and the Burlington community.

In order to expand restoration and management throughout the city, Burlington needs to inventory existing natural areas and climate initiatives, followed by the development and continuous evaluation of restoration and management plans with a focus on climate solutions. The city can establish and expand relations with stewards for improving city-wide management, and work towards community values that go beyond basic nature improvements.

While many of these actions are oriented toward city government, private land stewards have a critical role to play as well. They can employ similar tactics on their land and collaborate with the City to ensure efforts do not stop at parcel boundaries.

ACTIONS

CS1.1 Develop restoration and management plans for core natural areas. Use existing management plans as templates and work with other organizations to ensure alignment across plans. Prioritize plans for ecological significance.

CS1.2 Inventory current initiatives and projects that support Nature Based Climate Solutions, identify gaps, and outline future initiatives/projects to close gaps.

CS1.3 Adjust the City's green infrastructure definition to go beyond stormwater management and to include elements such as the urban forest, natural areas, wetlands, and green corridors.

CS1.4 Establish city- and community-wide values and methods for aggressive introduced species management. Communicate in the communications plan (See EX1.3).

CS1.5 Update Natural Resource Protection District Map for consistency with Open Space Plan's core natural areas.

CS1.6 Continue to restore urban waterways like Potash, Centennial, Englesby Brooks (through partnerships, restoration activities, and regulations like buffer zones).

CS1.7 *See also in CONNECT: CN2.3. Support "Friends Of" groups near natural areas (including supporting existing efforts and expanding to new groups) and target outreach within stewardship zones.*

STRATEGY 2
Support Wildlife Movement and Ecological Health

Core natural areas enable wildlife movement and support ecological health. Connecting open spaces and supporting natural systems can be strengthened through stewardship actions, both large and small.

This strategy includes actions focused on collecting and sharing data to increase community awareness about ecosystem health. It also includes actions to improve health of ecosystems, especially larger core areas and areas supporting area-sensitive or regionally uncommon plants, animals, and natural communities. The Burlington community showed widespread support for restoration projects to maintain forest health, remove aggressive introduced species, and help sustain the wildlife habitat. Though not explicitly addressed in these actions, the issue of deer inhibiting forest regeneration is one the city will need to monitor in conjunction with their effect on agricultural lands (see CULTIVATE).

ACTIONS

CS2.1 Create network of pollinator-friendly and native plant habitats across the city.

CS2.2 Increase data collection on Burlington's Wildlife Corridors (e.g. species use, frequency of use, key environmental components) to incorporate in other City processes (e.g. management strategies).

CS2.3 Continue to identify opportunities to improve large forest areas and improve habitat for songbirds and other indicator species.

CS2.4 Create an open-access dashboard tracking key indicators related to wildlife, water quality, and restoration with suggested ways to make progress.

CONSERVE Strategies

STRATEGY 3
Evolve the Conservation Legacy Fund to be flexible to changing needs

The Conservation Legacy Fund has been a critical tool in expanding Burlington's protected open spaces to support community goals. Now, as the pace of new protection slows down, to continue to reflect community values of stewardship, there is a need to broaden the use of the Conservation Legacy Fund to include critical maintenance, stewardship, and conservation infrastructure on open space lands.

ACTIONS

CS3.1 Increase the Conservation Legacy Fund.

CS3.2 Review the Conservation Legacy Fund and evaluate expanding the definition of potential fund uses to support conservation goals and values expressed in the Fund's inception (e.g. conservation infrastructure, education, green stormwater infrastructure, etc.).

STRATEGY 4
Collaborate to acquire land to protect open space for future generations

Burlington views natural and recreational lands as community assets that support residential quality of life, drinking water quality, food security, and a sense of place and history defined by a unique landscape. With this realization comes the responsibility for nurturing and protecting those assets over the long term. Acquiring land through collaborative strategies for scenic, natural, and recreational purposes is one of the surest ways for any community to secure its most important land assets. Land can also be set aside to build community green spaces as infill development is undertaken.

ACTIONS

CS4.1 Review and update acquisition list and criteria.

CS4.2 Adapt strategies for land acquisition for conservation for both public and private lands, reflecting the priorities of the new open space plan and upcoming comprehensive plan.

CONSERVE Implementation Matrix

CS 1: Expand Restoration and Management City-wide							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CS 1.1	Develop restoration and management plans for core natural areas. Use existing management plans as templates and work with other organizations to ensure alignment across plans. Prioritize plans for ecological significance.	Conservation Board, Parks Conservation Team	Qualified ecologists	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CS 1.2	Inventory current initiatives and projects that support Nature Based Climate Solutions, identify gaps, and outline future initiatives/projects to close gaps.	Parks Conservation Team	Wildways, NBCS grantees, Water Resources	-	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 1.3	Adjust the City's green infrastructure definition to go beyond stormwater management and to include elements such as the urban forest, natural areas, wetlands, and green corridors.	Conservation Board	Water Resources, DPI, City Planning, WNRCD, "Friends of" groups	-	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 1.4	Establish city- and community-wide values and methods for aggressive introduced species management. Communicate in the communications plan (See EX1.3).	Parks Conservation Team and Wildways	State of Vermont, Parks maintenance team, large landowners (e.g. Intervale)	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	EX 1.3
CS 1.5	Update Natural Resource Protection District Map for consistency with Open Space Plan's core natural areas.	City Planning/DPI	Conservation Board, Planning Commission	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CS 1.6	Continue to restore urban waterways like Potash, Centennial, Englesby Brooks (through partnerships, restoration activities, and regulations like buffer zones).	Parks Conservation Team	VT DEC, Water Resources, WVPD, BLUE Stormwater	-	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-
CS 1.7	*See also in CONNECT: CN2.3. Support "Friends Of" groups near natural areas (including supporting existing efforts and expanding to new groups) and target outreach within stewardship zones.*	-	-	-	-	-	-

CONSERVE Implementation Matrix

CS 2: Support Wildlife Movement and Ecological Health							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CS 2.1	Create network of pollinator-friendly and native plant habitats across the city.	Parks Conservation Team	Wildways, VGN, Grow Wild	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CS 2.2	Increase data collection on Burlington's Wildlife Corridors (e.g. species use, frequency of use, key environmental components) to incorporate in other City processes (e.g. zoning, neighborhood codes).	Parks Conservation Team	UVM, VT Fish and Wildlife, City Planning, DPI, Conservation Board	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CS 2.3	Continue to identify opportunities to improve large forest areas and improve habitat for songbirds and other indicator species.	Conservation Board	Parks Conservation Team	-	YES (ongoing)	Long-term (6+ years)	-
CS 2.4	Create an open-access dashboard tracking key indicators related to wildlife, water quality, and restoration with suggested ways to make progress.	City Planning (provide data), IT Department (set up dashboard) Parks, Communications (maintain dashboard)	City Planning (Data Analysts), Park Conservation Team, Parks Communications	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 3: Evolve the Conservation Legacy Fund to be flexible to changing needs							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CS 3.1	Increase the Conservation Legacy Fund.	DPI, Parks Conservation Team	Conservation Board, Parks Commission, City Council, Mayor's Office, Director of Financial Operations	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 3.2	Review the Conservation Legacy Fund and evaluate expanding the definition of potential fund uses to support conservation goals and values expressed in the Fund's inception (e.g. conservation infrastructure, education, green stormwater infrastructure, etc.).	DPI, Parks Conservation Team	Conservation Board, Parks Commission, City Council, Mayors Office, Director of Financial Operations)	YES	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 4: Collaborate to acquire land to protect open space for future generations							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CS 4.1	Review and update acquisition list and criteria.	Parks Conservation Team	City Planning, City Assessor	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 4.2	Adapt strategies for land acquisition for conservation for both public and private lands, reflecting the priorities of the new open space plan and upcoming comprehensive plan.	Parks Conservation Team	City Planning, City Assessor, Conservation Board, Parks Commission, DPI	YES	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-

CONNECT

A landscape stitched together by stewardship and nature-based development

Derway Cove

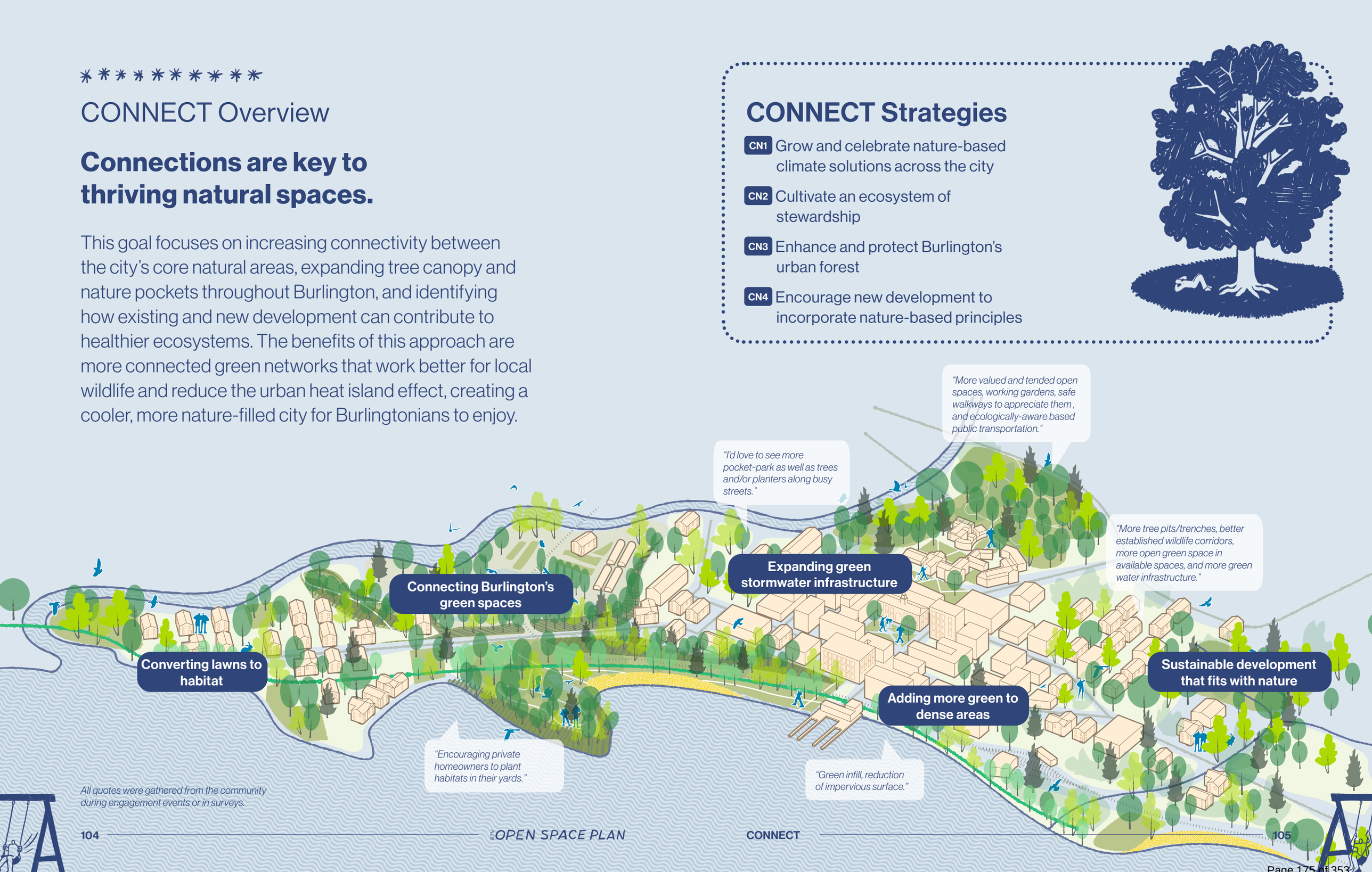
CONNECT Overview

Connections are key to thriving natural spaces.

This goal focuses on increasing connectivity between the city's core natural areas, expanding tree canopy and nature pockets throughout Burlington, and identifying how existing and new development can contribute to healthier ecosystems. The benefits of this approach are more connected green networks that work better for local wildlife and reduce the urban heat island effect, creating a cooler, more nature-filled city for Burlingtonians to enjoy.

CONNECT Strategies

- **CN1** Grow and celebrate nature-based climate solutions across the city
- **CN2** Cultivate an ecosystem of stewardship
- **CN3** Enhance and protect Burlington's urban forest
- **CN4** Encourage new development to incorporate nature-based principles



All quotes were gathered from the community during engagement events or in surveys.

The amount of impervious surface is a key driver of ecological health.

The location and prevalence of impervious surfaces imposes a ceiling on protection, restoration, and stewardship of the natural world, and limits the integration of the natural world into the human-built environment. Open space planning can be constrained by impervious surfaces as they put limits on where naturalization and restoration efforts of the built environment can occur. They also limit the actions the City can effectively take to improve the ecological integrity, resilience, and functioning of the City's open spaces. These actions range from removing aggressive introduced plants, to creating pollinator habitat, to restoring wetlands and forests, to managing stormwater runoff, to creating space for animals that cannot tolerate human intrusion on their habitats.

At 10% impervious cover, negative ecological effects are already present.

10% Impervious Cover

10% impervious

Stream water quality begins to deteriorate. 10% impervious cover can exclude larger mammals, raptors, and area-sensitive species from areas.

20% Impervious Cover

20% impervious

Streams shift to a highly altered urban state. Visible evidence of erosion, algae blooms, and decreased macroinvertebrate diversity.

25% Impervious Cover

25% impervious

Remnant natural areas are small and have no interior habitat. Greatly decreases biodiversity in birds, small mammals, herptiles, and invertebrates.

Open Space Stories

BLUE BTV

Lake Champlain Sea Grant's program BLUE helps residents protect their waterways from pollution right in their yards.

When rainwater flows off impervious surfaces like roofs, driveways, and streets, it can carry dirt, oil, and other pollution into the water. This runoff can cause harmful algae blooms that are often unsafe for people and animals. BLUE helps change that.

Any resident can sign up for a free visit from BLUE. They will do a home inspection, look at how rainwater flows around your yard, and give tips on how to keep that water clean. Tips range from small projects like redirecting your downspouts to bigger ones like installing rain gardens or permeable driveways. Once you complete the project, you are "BLUE-certified" — you are helping make Burlington's waters cleaner!

CONNECT Overview

The intensity of development within an area impacts what strategies are most effective.

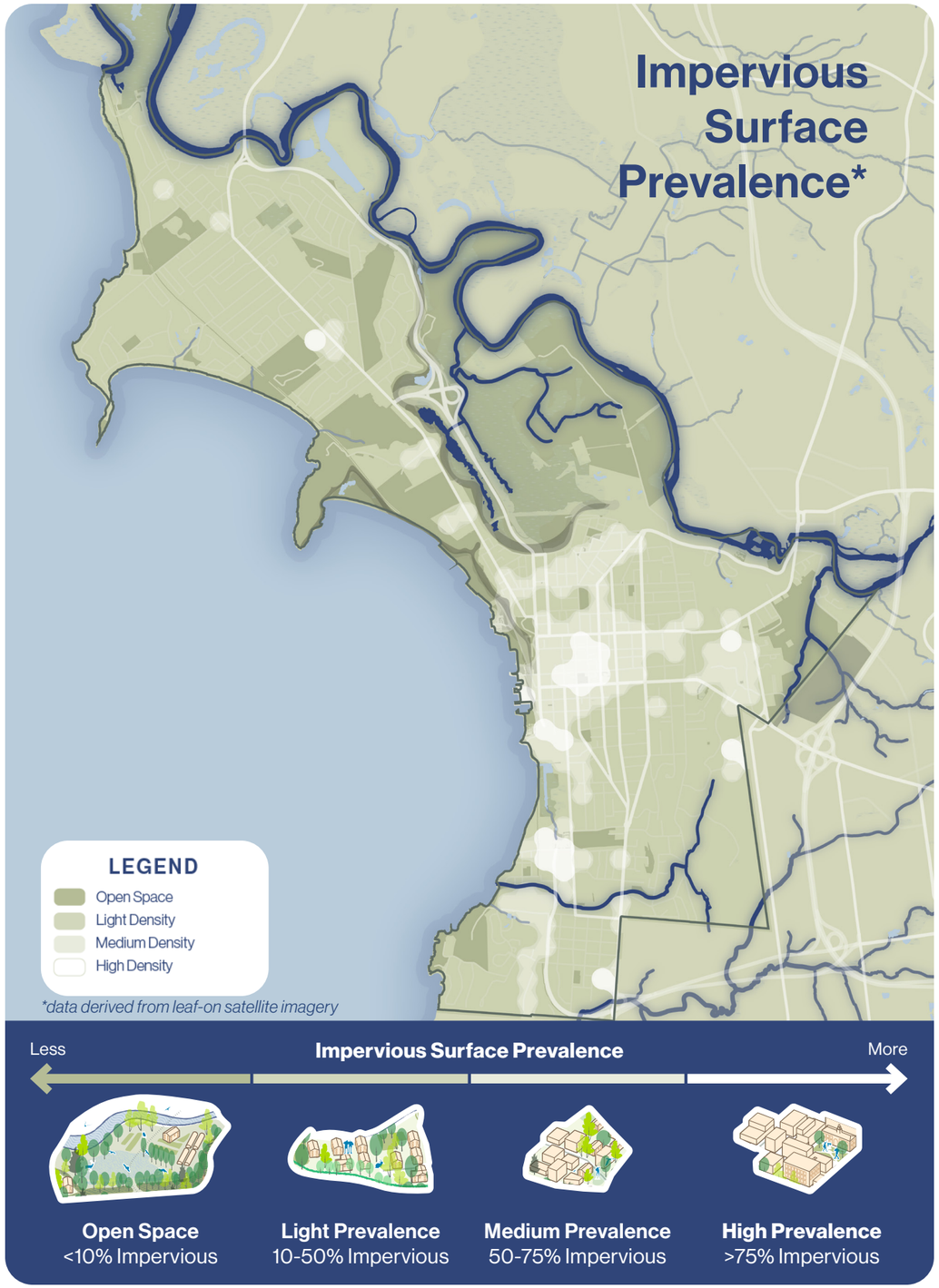
Burlington has a wide variety of neighborhoods, from the dense urban core of Downtown to areas with more open space, like the New North End. The amount of impervious surfaces—such as roads, parking lots, and buildings—greatly influences both the ecological health and future potential of each area. Strategies to enhance green spaces, manage stormwater sustainably, and support biodiversity will differ depending on the density and development of the neighborhood. Across all neighborhoods, these strategies not only connect ecology, but also connect people to green spaces and to each other.

Stewardship Opportunities

- Potential for an activity to protect, restore and steward ecosystems and habitats
- Rating of activities by zone – Feasibility given space, level of effort/cost, and likelihood of success

Strategies marked as **"High"** represent places where improvements can be made successfully with relatively low cost and effort. **"Low"** indicates strategies that will require greater resources and effort for meaningful change.

Impervious Cover	Ecological Stormwater Management	Large Natural Areas	Small Natural Areas	Biodiversity Enhancements
Open Space < 10%	High	High	High	High
Light Prevalence 10 - 50%	High	Low	Medium	High
Medium Prevalence 50 - 75%	Medium	Low	Low	Medium
High Prevalence > 75%	Low	Low	Low	Medium



Key Connections

The map on the opposite page identifies potential key connections for wildlife movement. Arrows on the map identify connections between core natural areas, waterbodies, and contiguous tree canopy. It can be a high-level guide for where additional protected land, tree plantings, and infrastructure to facilitate wildlife movement (culverts under roads for crossing) could be prioritized. It is intended to show high-level connections at a broad scale. The tree canopy data from UVM can also be used to support finer-grained connectivity improvements, like enhancing linear habitat connection across backyards in a neighborhoods to support localized wildlife movement.

Key areas of focus for wildlife movement include:

- **New North End**, loop from Derway Island through Starr Farm, Leddy Park, Arms Forest, Rock Point, Ethan Allen Park, and Mount Calvary Red Maple Wetland
- **Across North Ave, especially near North Ave/127** entrance - the topography in this location is especially favorable for a wildlife and potentially pedestrian underpass
- **Along Winooski River**
- From **Centennial Woods** / Centennial Brook northwest towards Intervale Center
- **South End,** from large patches of tree canopy in the Country Club, along Englesby Brook, towards the Barge Canal, and Oakledge Park towards South Burlington

Types of Connections

Habitat Islands

PURPOSE
Plant small habitat islands across urban landscape to increase plant, insect, bird, and small mammal diversity near people's homes and places of work and play.

OPPORTUNITIES
- Many small areas, such as pocket parks, are available on public and private land
- Public interest in seeing flowering plants, butterflies, birds, pollinators, and other signs of nature living nearby

BARRIERS TO SUCCESS
- Too dispersed, small and diverse to facilitate long-term protection and management by any one entity
- Correct siting of habitat islands to avoid conflicts, ensure establishment and persistence, and minimize management costs

Green Stormwater Facility

PURPOSE
Ecologically-inspired and functioning facilities to manage stormwater runoff; e.g., rain garden, tree trench, roadside planter (e.g., St. Paul green streets), downspout redirection to turf, bioswale, bioinfiltration basin, stormwater wetland, green roof, treatment train, etc.

OPPORTUNITIES
- Future road upgrades and major repair jobs are best opportunity to install GSI to manage road and parking lot runoff
- Other opportunities in City's stormwater management plan

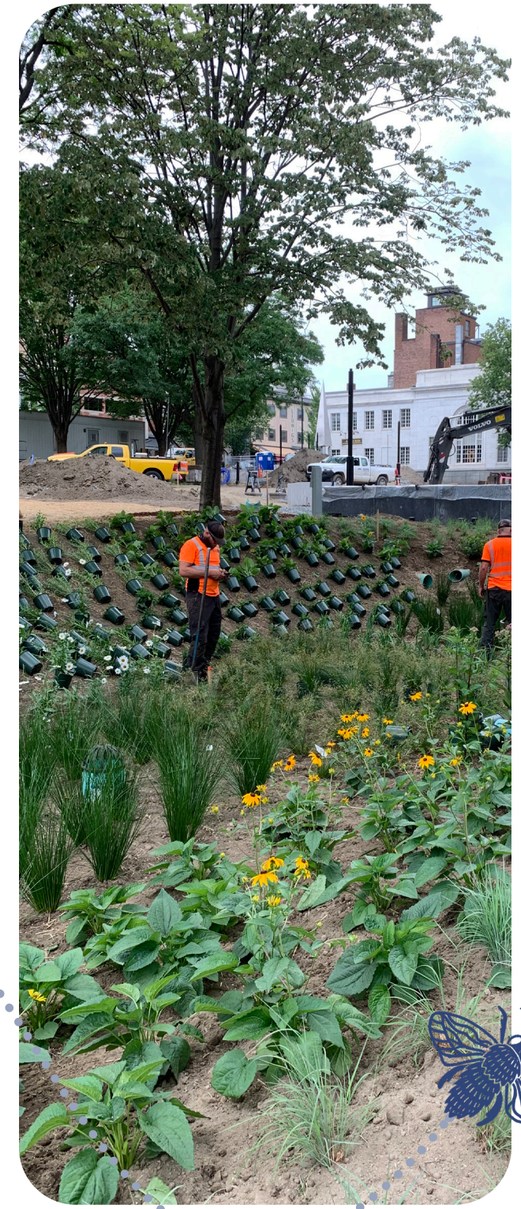
BARRIERS TO SUCCESS
- Typically high cost
- Usually limited space to manage large catchments
- Usually small catchments are managed – high per-gallon cost for pollutant removal (lbs. removed/dollar spent)

Other Connections

PURPOSE
Understand and support movement of wild animals and native plants through urban landscape.

OPPORTUNITIES
- Neighborhood based NBCS projects, redevelopment projects, wildlife corridor assessments and protocols, pollinators and their habitats.

BARRIERS TO SUCCESS
- Feasibility of using non-public lands
- Limited resources for acquisition of fee title, easement, or lease
- No voluntary recognition program exists



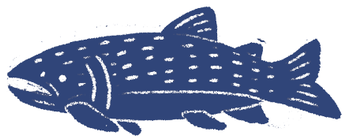
Green Design Standards

Overall

- **A** Develop with native soil, hydrology, and vegetation in mind.
- **B** Protect and maintain healthy and resilient natural areas.
- **C** Understand past and existing conditions to guide restoration and management.
- **D** Create attractive, resilient, and economically feasible plant communities.
- **E** Tell an ecological story that inspires people to restore the natural world.
- **F** Allow people to visit natural areas while protecting ecosystem resilience.
- **G** Document ecological trends by monitoring indicators of health and resilience.

Wildlife

- **A** Protect and restore habitat for rare and uncommon plant and animal species.
- **B** Create the largest, roundest habitats for area-sensitive wildlife species.
- **C** Connect habitat cores to similar nearby habitat.
- **D** Design new reserves to minimize edge effects from adjacent properties.
- **E** Establish stewardship zones to manage edge effects from adjacent developed land.
- **F** Install special habitat features like nest boxes and basking logs.
- **G** Manage nuisance wildlife, such as deer and geese, using appropriate methods.



Soil & Hydrology

- **A** Preserve stable soils and existing natural hydrology.
- **B** Fix eroding lands and degraded hydrology with catchment and watershed management.
- **C** Prevent flooding by preserving natural lands and installing green infrastructure.
- **D** Use ecological stormwater management tools before highly engineered solutions.
- **E** Reduce runoff at its source; use a sequence of natural features to manage runoff.
- **F** Solve soil and hydrological problems in the most cost-effective way.

Vegetation

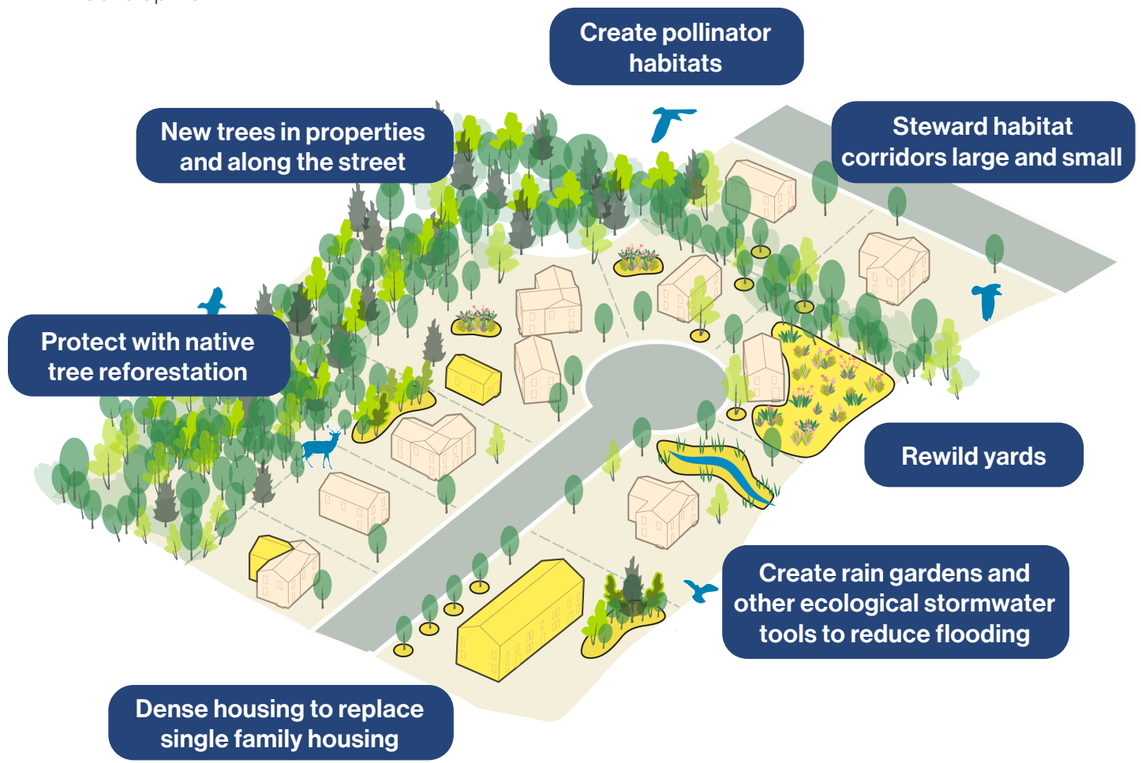
- **A** Protect and restore rare and common native ecological land cover types.
- **B** Encourage diverse native flowering plants across the growing season.
- **C** Control non-native and native plants that disrupt ecosystems and depress biodiversity.
- **D** Establish vegetation that can be managed with the least effort.
- **E** Convert lawns to more productive native habitat where possible.

Human Use

- **A** Identify natural areas with sensitive wildlife that tolerate little human interaction.
- **B** Define management units and access points.
- **C** Detect problems early by monitoring on-trail and off-trail use.
- **D** Recruit organizations, experts and volunteers (such as “Friends Of” groups) to help maintain and monitor natural areas.
- **E** Protect cultural resources, such as Native American artifacts and historical structures.

Nature-Supporting Growth Areas

Development and open space can work in tandem to provide mutual benefits to both nature and people. In the below scenario, a residential neighborhood at the edge of a large forest can grow and change to support new residents through accessory dwelling units, and a new apartment building, while also contributing to the vision and goals outlined in this plan like supporting ecological stormwater infrastructure, forest restoration, pollinator gardens, and redevelopment rather than new development.



CONNECT Strategies

STRATEGY 1
Grow and Celebrate Nature-Based Climate Solutions Across the City

The 2022 Addendum to the Open Space Plan highlighted the connection between a thriving environment and a thriving community. Built on a foundational themes of equity, inclusion, and relationships, NBCS are holistic strategies that protect, restore, and steward the world around us through multidisciplinary collaboration.

While NBCS are deeply integrated throughout this Open Space Plan, this strategy focuses on education and awareness–strengthening existing relationships and building new partnerships to educate on, grow, and track NBCS throughout the city and across many initiatives. This involves not just the city government, but also schools, the public, and private property owners.

ACTIONS

CN1.1 Educate the public on Nature-Based Climate Solutions and their value. (See also EX1.3)

CN1.2 Create and support existing education, recognition, and incentive programs to encourage private property owners to integrate Nature Based Climate Solutions and implement sound ecological practices (e.g. reducing lawn space), especially within Natural Area Stewardship Zones.

- Celebrate and support Grow Wild initiatives to encourage lawn conversions for native spaces to incrementally replace non-native for habitat benefits.
- Use established pockets to disburse throughout neighborhoods.
- Potential programs include adaptation of Green Design Standards, expansion of the BLUE program, and encouragement of "Wild Yards" to convert mowed areas to naturalized open space.

CN1.3 Continue to partner with schools to grow nature-based climate solutions on school grounds.

CN1.4 Create a municipal management plan to track and reduce mowed lawns.

CN1.5 Continue to grow nature-based climate solutions on City property, including but not limited to green stormwater infrastructure.

CN1.6 *See also in CONSERVE: CS2.1. Create network of pollinator-friendly and native plant gardens across the city.*

STRATEGY 2
Cultivate an Ecosystem of Stewardship

From school children to community-based organizations to city leadership, Burlington has a deep sense of care and commitment to stewarding the natural world around them–not just for personal use but for its intrinsic value and environmental health. Burlingtonians across the city are doing meaningful work in many different capacities to educate people to open space, plant pollinator gardens, advocate for resilient waterways, and encourage responsible growing and foraging.

This strategy celebrates the existing communities of care and seeks to support and build on them to facilitate knowledge and resource sharing. Across the community, schools, organizations, and City departments, this strategy streamlines processes and seeks to make valuing open space integral to how everyone operates, particularly through co-education and shared resources.

ACTIONS

CN2.1 Create a database and listserv of open space organizations to support collaboration, resource sharing, etc.

CN2.2 Co-host a recurring open space summit for land stewards, community organizations, and others.

CN2.3 Continue to support "Friends Of" groups near natural areas (including supporting existing efforts and expanding to new groups) and target outreach within stewardship zones.

CN2.4 Update Urban Wilds definition, including considering expanding beyond city-owned land.

CN2.5 Distribute educational resources about how personal actions can support water quality health in lake, river, and tributaries. (See also EX1.3)

STRATEGY 3
Enhance and Protect Burlington's Urban Forest

Burlington's urban forest offers numerous benefits—from providing shade and wildlife habitat to reducing stormwater runoff and improving air quality. While the city still maintains a robust 40% tree canopy cover, this coverage has declined over the past decade, particularly in areas where more canopy is most needed. Urban forest management should focus not only on protecting existing trees but also on expanding canopy through new plantings.

To support this, tree data must be regularly updated and tracked over time. This includes comprehensively updating the City's Tree Ordinance and conducting regular tree canopy assessments and setting goals. These tools can help identify areas where protection efforts should be strengthened, as well as places suitable for establishing new groves or clusters of trees.

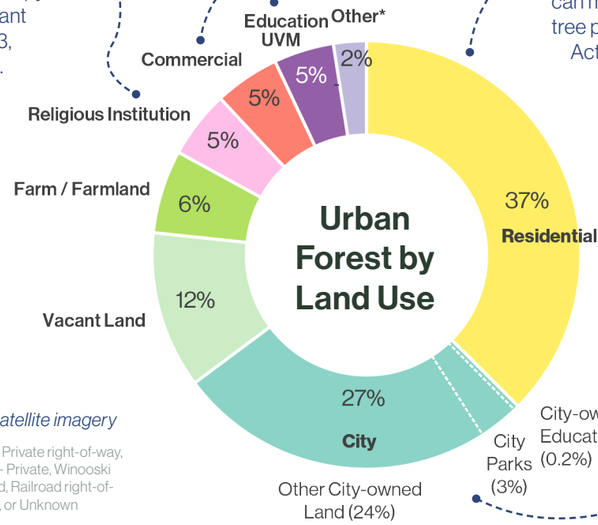
With 37.5% of Burlington's trees located on private property, community engagement will be essential. Public education about alternatives to tree removal and the benefits of tree preservation can help build broader support for a resilient, citywide tree canopy.

ACTIONS

- CN3.1 Comprehensively update the Tree Ordinance.
- CN3.2 Update the urban tree canopy goal and mapping/data analysis every 10 years. Consider developing specific goals for different types of canopy based on their ecological and heat island mitigation value.
- CN3.3 Conduct Pocket Forest Feasibility Study inclusive of existing and potential pocket parks that develops plant lists, identifies potential existing sites, and envisions incentives for establishing pocket forests in new developments, dense neighborhoods, and greenbelts.
- CN3.4 Identify large valuable trees (e.g. specimen trees) in the city that are on public and private land, and consider protection with ideas framed in the policy toolkit from Biophilic Cities network.
- CN3.5 Educate the public on benefits of the urban forest and how to manage it on private property. (See also CN1.1, CN1.2, EX1.3)

About 10% of the urban forest is on land owned by **religious or educational institutions.** Partnerships could be considered for expanding tree canopy on suitable land. Relevant actions: CN3.1, CN3.3, CN3.4, and CN3.5.

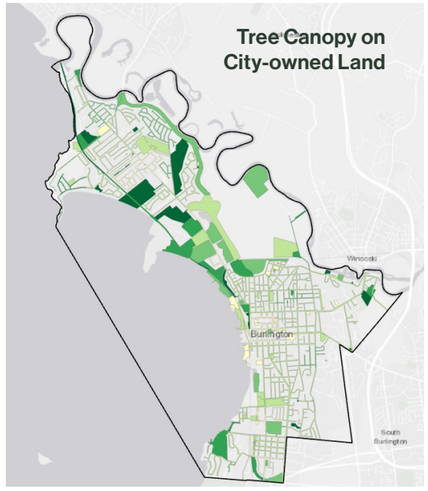
37% of Burlington's urban forest sits on **residential land**, and another 5% is on **commercial land**. Individual actions can make a significant impact, either for tree preservation or tree loss. Relevant Actions: CN3.1, CN3.4, and CN3.5.



27% of the urban forest is on **City-owned land**. The City can directly expand tree canopy on City-owned land and model best practices for urban forest health and maintenance. Relevant actions: CN3.3 and CN3.4.

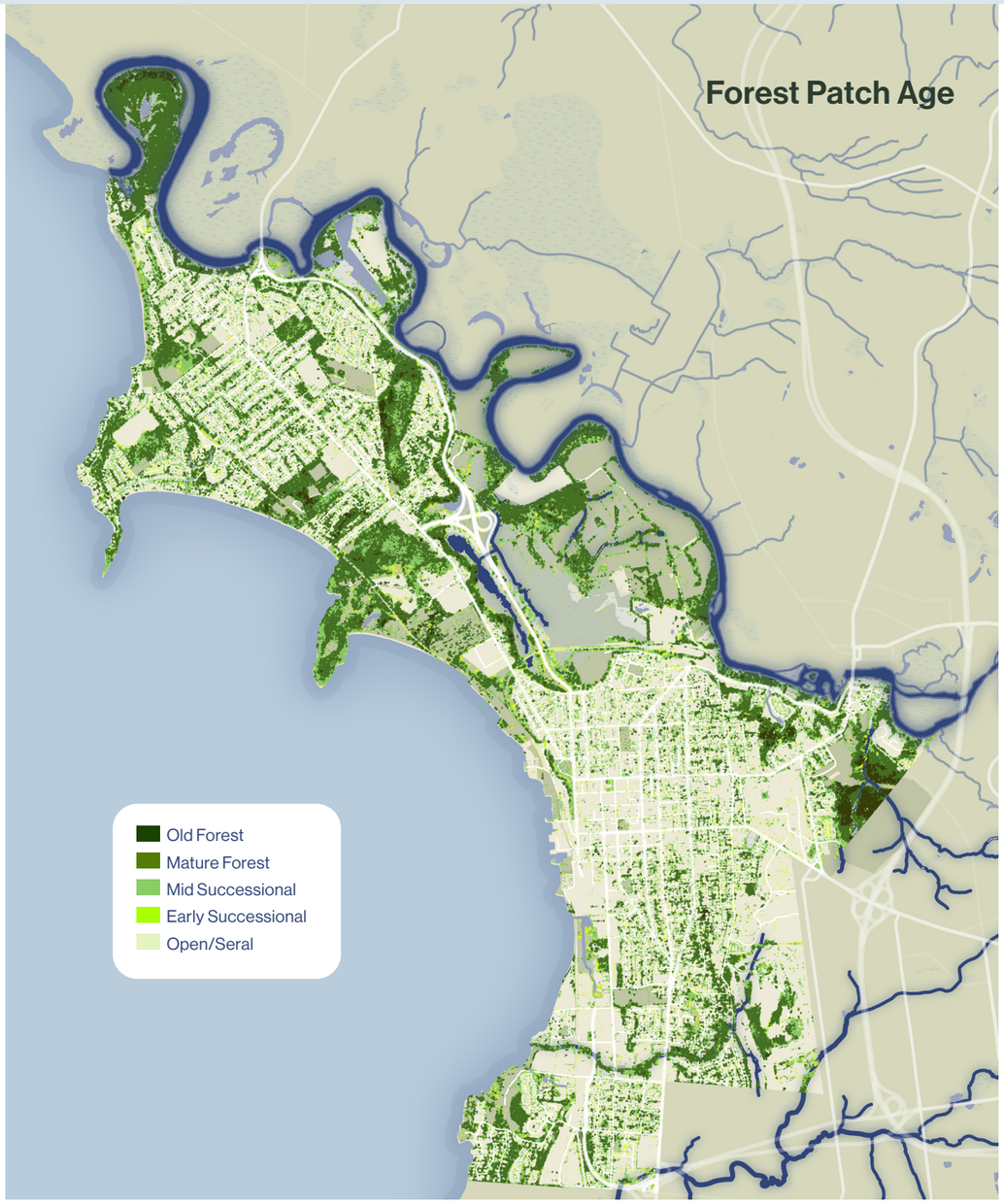
data derived from leaf-on satellite imagery

Other includes following land uses: Private right-of-way, Education - Champlain, Education - Private, Winooski River, State or Federally owned land, Railroad right-of-way, Mixed commercial/residential, or Unknown



Existing Tree Canopy %
- 0-15%
- 15-30%
- 30-50%
- 50-70%
- 70-100%

CONNECT Strategies



Urban Tree Canopy Assessment by UVM

Managing for Biodiversity and Resilience with Canopy Assessment Data

UVM's Tree Canopy Assessment provides a valuable dataset that can inform urban forest management decisions across Burlington. For example, data on patch age helps distinguish mature forest areas from those in earlier successional stages.

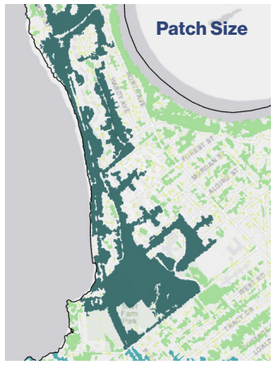
Combined with information about patch shape, this data highlights which forest patches contribute most to a resilient and healthy urban forest network. Smaller or irregularly shaped patches with high edge-to-area ratios are more vulnerable to biodiversity loss over time—a process known as "species relaxation." In contrast, larger, "rounder" forest patches tend to support greater species diversity and are more resistant to aggressive introduced species.

These insights can help guide where to prioritize management actions that build long-term forest resilience and where to maintain different habitat types. Not every area should be managed toward mature forest conditions. Open landscapes and grasslands remain important for supporting species like bluebirds. The open areas and grasslands in the Intervale, for example, could be managed to stay open, supporting edge-requiring species like butterflies and other insects.

Both of these forest patches are identified as very large patches, but due to their age and shape, they have varying levels of long-term resilience to species loss.

Very Large Patch
Large Patch
Medium Patch
Small Patch
Isolated Tree
Old Forest
Mature Forest
Mid Successional
Early Successional
Open/Seral

Small and/or irregularly shaped patches are more vulnerable to biodiversity loss and spread of aggressive introduced species.

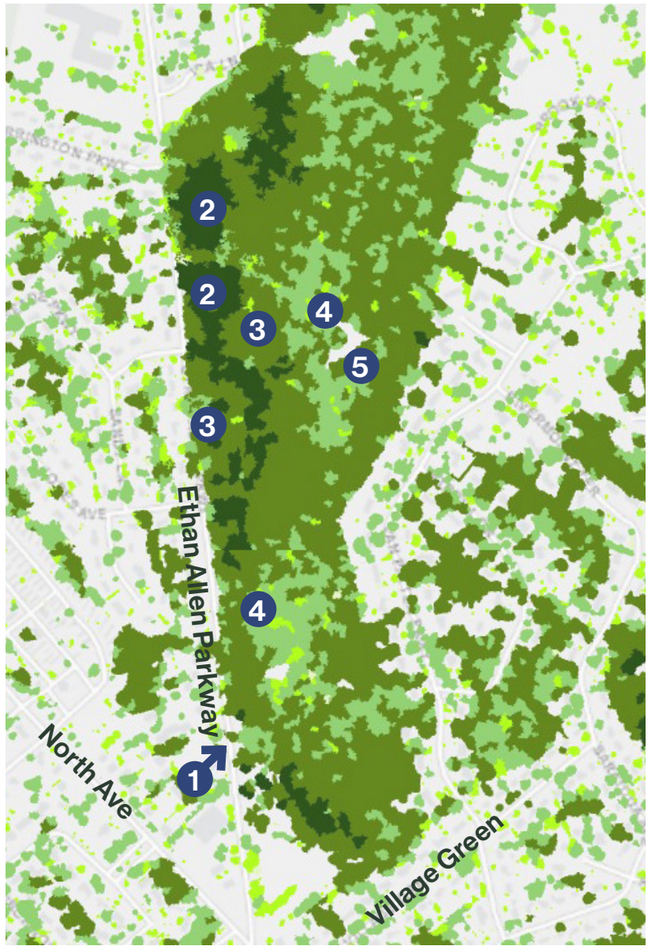


Starr Farm Park, North Shore Natural Area, and nearby areas in New North End

Large, round areas of old and mature forest are more resilient to biodiversity loss.

Arms Forest and Rock Point

Example of using data for management and planting decisions



Ethan Allen Park

General management prioritization principles, with example locations indicated on map of Ethan Allen Park:

1. Areas of old and mature forest that have more edge area could be made more resilient by adding tree canopy where possible to increase the interior areas of these patches.
2. Prioritize aggressive introduced species control in large old and mature forest patches.
3. Also prioritize aggressive introduced species control in mid-successional areas near old/ mature forests to reduce spread of species into older forest areas.
4. Manage mid-successional, especially areas near large old/ mature forests to guide them to the desired mature state. Foresters can help assess current conditions and guide species composition through selective thinning that favors desired canopy species (e.g. oak, hickory, walnut, white pine).
5. Identify open patches that are not needed for recreation or other uses (e.g., picnics, sports fields). These areas can be prioritized for tree planting to reduce the spread of aggressive introduced species.

Leddy Park

Leddy Park shows an example of a park that is balancing a lot of varied needs for both people and wildlife: from recreation, to parking, to habitat / biodiversity. To enhance urban forest health, biodiversity, and resilience, the City could consider relocating parking or recreational uses within Leddy Park to create more interior forest habitat, while still preserving the diversity of uses. When relocating uses, consider shifting to less mature forest areas. For example, shifting the southern parking lot southeast towards the edge of the park could allow replanting on the northwestern end to create a larger area of contiguous forest.

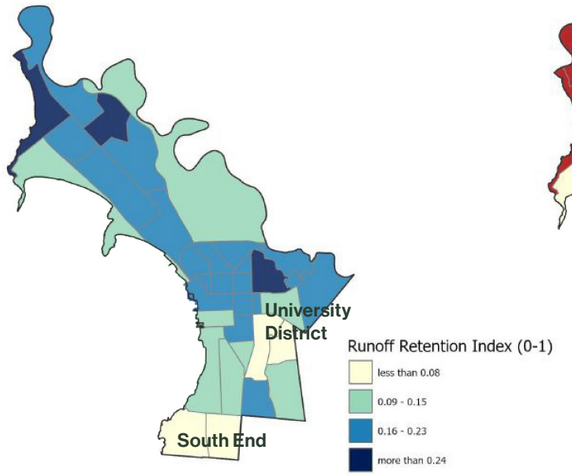
CONNECT Strategies

Using Tree Canopy Assessment to Support Planting and other benefits

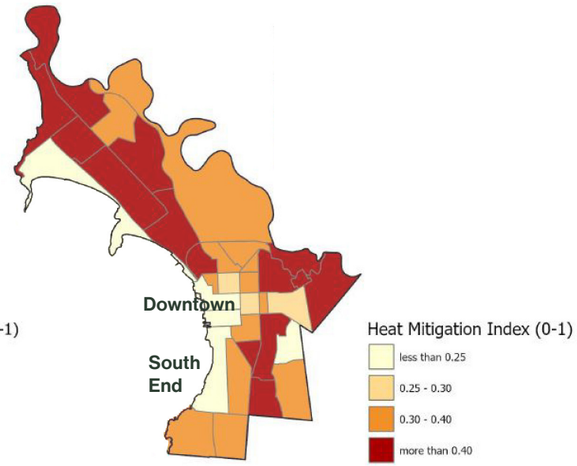
UVM's Tree Canopy Assessment identified high-level opportunities for reforestation as well as where the city's urban forest is absorbing stormwater and cooling adjacent areas.

By planting just one new tree, Burlington can remove enough CO_2 to offset 13 miles of car travel and absorb six bathtubs of stormwater!

Stormwater Absorption



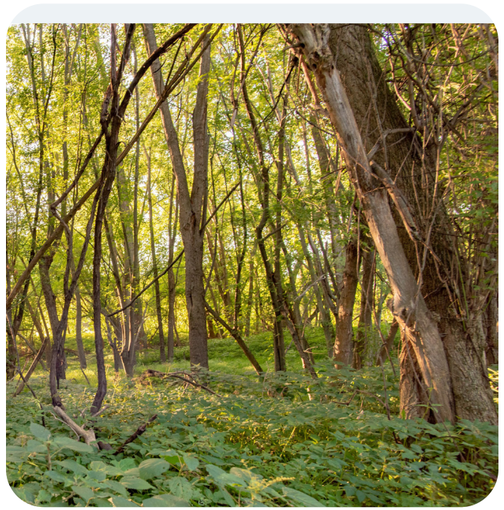
Urban Cooling Benefits



Maps by UVM

"Areas with low runoff retention may benefit from increased tree plantings due to the capacity of vegetation acting as riparian buffers filtering runoff and absorbing precipitation into the soil."
- UVM Urban Tree Canopy Assessment

Areas with lower heat island mitigation today (e.g. light yellow areas above) could be priorities for more tree planting focused on enhancing urban cooling.



STRATEGY 4
Encourage New Development to Incorporate Nature-Based Principles

Though conservation and development have historically been pitted against each other, the two can work together in mutually beneficial ways. Cities like Burlington that both deeply value open space and sorely need to expand their housing stock can build dense development that also increases ecologically healthy green areas with practices like Low Impact Design and Conservation Development.

This strategy capitalizes on widespread desires across the community to incorporate nature-based principles in development. On the new development side, creating green design standards and development review resources will help foster environmentally-beneficial building. On the existing development side, providing educational resources to owners and occupants within Stewardship Zones will help those closest to natural areas support their ecological health. Green design standards can guide both new and existing development to incorporate principles and engage in tactics like reducing impervious surface, improving drainage, building green stormwater infrastructure, and creating pollinator habitats.

ACTIONS

- CN4.1 Develop Green Design Standards for new developments and redevelopments.
- CN4.2 Provide educational resources for owners and occupants in Stewardship Zones to support ecological health of nearby natural areas.
- CN4.3 Create development review resources to support review bodies in evaluating sustainable/ ecological nature-based approaches to development and open space impacts of new development.

Open Space Stories

BEE a Good Steward

Vermont is home to about 350 different species of native bees, and Burlington is an important statewide hotspot for native bees!

The sandy soils on the lakeshore and river delta and diversified organic agriculture in the floodplain provide prime nesting and feeding grounds for bees, contributing to a high diversity of bee species. While the most famous bee is the non-native honey bee, bees native to Vermont come in all shapes, colors, and sizes. We rely on native bees and pollinators to pollinate our crops, gardens, plants and trees.

Many of these trees and plants won't regenerate without bees and other pollinators. While people rely on urban forests and plants to slow storm water, clean the air, and keep the lake clean, native bees and pollinators rely on native plants for nutrients and habitat. Growing and planting natives around the city helps both us and bees steward healthy connected habitats.

That's why Vermont's open spaces and our ability to continue stewarding them are so important: native plants and habitats are critical for these bees and pollinators survival. In return the city gains many valuable services from native plants and trees that our native bees and other pollinators rely on.

This new Open Space plan will build on past city plans and establish a policy vision for open space inventory, management, access, and preservation going into the future.

CONNECT Implementation Matrix

CN 1: Grow and Celebrate Nature-Based Climate Solutions Across the City							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CN 1.1	Educate the public on Nature-Based Climate Solutions and their value. (See also EX1.3)	Parks Conservation Team	Conservation Board, Parks Commission, Wildways, Parks Communications	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 1.2	Create and support existing education, recognition, and incentive programs to encourage private property owners to integrate Nature Based Climate Solutions and implement sound ecological practices (e.g. reducing lawn space), especially within Natural Area Stewardship Zones. • Celebrate and support Grow Wild initiatives to encourage lawn conversions for native spaces to incrementally replace non-native for habitat benefits. • Use established pockets to disburse throughout neighborhoods. • Potential programs include adaptation of Green Design Standards, expansion of the BLUE program, and encouragement of "Wild Yards" to convert mowed areas to naturalized open space.	Parks Conservation Team	Conservation Board, Wildways, GROW wild, BLUE program, Parks Communications	YES	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CN 1.3	Continue to partner with schools to grow nature-based climate solutions on school grounds.	Burlington School District	Burlington Wildways, Parks Conservation Team, Shelburne Farms	-	YES (ongoing)	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 1.4	Create a municipal management plan to track and reduce mowed lawns.	Parks	Parks Ground Maintenance, Parks Conservation Team, Water Resources	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 1.5	Continue to grow nature-based climate solutions on City property, including but not limited to green stormwater infrastructure.	Parks	Water Resources	-	YES (ongoing)	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 1.6	*See also in CONSERVE: CS2.1. Create network of pollinator-friendly and native plant habitats across the city.*	-	-	-	-	-	-

CONNECT Implementation Matrix

CN 2: Cultivate an Ecosystem of Stewardship							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CN 2.1	Create a database and listserv of open space organizations to support collaboration, resource sharing, etc.	Parks Conservation Team	Wildways, Conservation Board	-	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 2.2	Co-host a recurring open space summit for land stewards, community organizations, and others.	Wildways, Mayor's Office	VCGN, Audubon, UVM, Wildways partners (e.g. Intervale, WVPD, Rock Point, Parks)	-	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 2.3	Continue to support "Friends Of" groups near natural areas (including supporting existing efforts and expanding to new groups) and target outreach within stewardship zones.	Parks Conservation Team	Parks Communications, WNRCD, Friends of the Winooski, Watersheds United Vermont, etc.	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CN 2.4	Update Urban Wilds definition, including considering expanding beyond city-owned land.	Conservation Board	Wildways, Large landowners, Parks Conservation Team, DPI	YES	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 2.5	Distribute educational resources about how personal actions can support water quality health in lake, river, and tributaries. (See also EX1.3)	Lake Champlain Sea Grant (BLUE program)	Water Resources, Parks Communications	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	EX 1.3

CONNECT Implementation Matrix

CN 3: Enhance and Protect Burlington's Urban Forest							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CN 3.1	Comprehensively update the Tree Ordinance.	Parks, City Arborist	Conservation Board, Parks Commission, City Arborist, Parks Conservation Team, Planning, Planning Commission, DPI	YES	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 3.2	Update the urban tree canopy goal and mapping/ data analysis every 10 years. Consider developing specific goals for different types of canopy based on their ecological and heat island mitigation value.	Parks, City Planning, Conservation Board	UVM Spatial Analysis, or similar provider	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-
CN 3.3	Conduct Pocket Forest Feasibility Study inclusive of existing and potential pocket parks that develops plant lists, identifies potential existing sites, and envisions incentives for establishing pocket forests in new developments, dense neighborhoods, and greenbelts.	Parks Conservation Team	Parks Planning, City Planning	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CN 3.4	Identify large valuable trees (e.g. specimen trees) in the city that are on public and private land, and consider protection with ideas framed in the policy toolkit from Biophilic Cities network.	Conservation Board	UVM Spatial Analysis Lab, City Arborist, Branch Out Burlington	-	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 3.5	Educate the public on benefits of the urban forest and how to manage it on private property. (See also CN1.1, CN1.2, EX1.3)	Parks Conservation Team	Conservation Board, Parks Commission, Wildways, Parks Communications	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	CN1.1, CN1.2, EX1.3

CN 4: Encourage New Development to Incorporate Nature-Based Principles							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CN 4.1	Develop Green Design Standards for new developments and redevelopments.	DPI, City Planning	Conservation Board, Planning Commission, Water Resources, land owners, landscape architects (?)	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CN 4.2	Provide educational resources for owners and occupants in Stewardship Zones to support ecological health of nearby natural areas.	Parks Conservation Team and Parks Communications	Grow Wild, Parks Planning, Lake Champlain Sea Grant	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CN 4.3	Create development review resources to support review bodies in evaluating sustainable/ecological nature-based approaches to development and open space impacts of new development.	DPI	Conservation Board, Parks Conservation Team	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-

Rena Caulkins Trail, Intervale

EXPERIENCE Overview

Fostering diverse outdoor experiences for everyone

Burlington's Open Space Plan is not just about land–it's about how people use and enjoy them. As reflected in the first wave of engagement, Burlingtonians' outdoor experiences are as diverse as the open spaces themselves. This goal focuses on preserving and enhancing experiences in nature while breaking down barriers to access. It also considers the different types of nature experiences people have–everyday experiences and wild ones–and how to educate people about them while growing opportunities to engage with a variety of open spaces.

EXPERIENCE Strategies

EX1 Increase awareness about Burlington's open spaces

EX2 Grow public access and accessibility to nature-based experiences

EX3 Break down barriers to open space access

All quotes were gathered from the community during engagement events or in surveys.

EXPERIENCE Overview

Connecting with nature can take many forms, from everyday nature moments to big woods experiences.

Standing at the edge of Rock Point and gazing out at Lake Champlain, without a building in sight. Pausing along a neighborhood walk to admire a neighbor's pollinator garden and breathe the evening air. Biking on the Burlington Greenway and passing picnickers, skateboarders, and kayakers at different points. These are just a few of the wide range of outdoor experiences that Burlington offers in everyday life and in close-to-home adventures.

Burlington's experiences are rich because of the variety of open space types and their diverse ownership and management practices. Some open spaces are managed intensively by people while others are left more wild. Some spaces lend themselves to passive recreation while others are more active. Some spaces can only be used in certain ways while others have many potential uses. Burlington is lucky to have this multifaceted array of open spaces.

Spectrum of Nature Experiences

Big Woods / Wild Nature Experiences

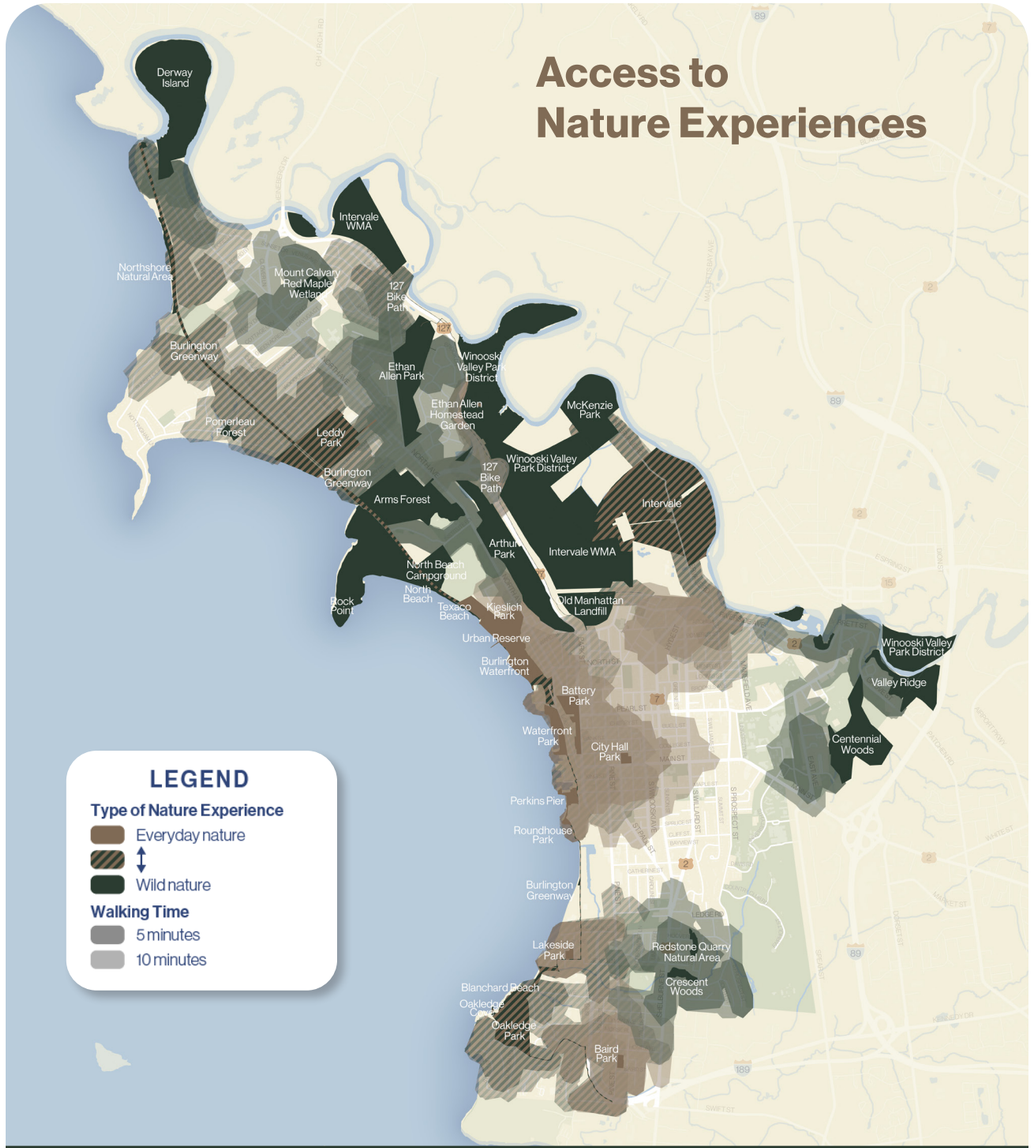
Hiking in Rock Point and marveling at the Champlain Thrust Fault or bird watching in Arms Forest

Nature and Park Experiences

Enjoying the waterfront in Oakledge Park or bicycling along the Burlington Greenway

Everyday Nature Experiences

Glimpses of Lake Champlain while walking Downtown or watching a bee buzz around a pollinator garden



Nature Experiences

	% area within.... 5 walk	10 walk
Everyday Nature	11%	21%
↕	23%	39%
Big Woods / Wild Nature	13%	25%

This map categorizes open spaces by whether they foster everyday nature or wild nature experiences. It shows the surrounding area that is within a 5-minute or 10-minute walk.

EXPERIENCE Strategies

STRATEGY 1
Increase Awareness About Burlington's Open Spaces

Half of Burlington's land area is covered by open spaces, but knowledge about and access to these spaces are not well known. While many people–residents and visitors alike–frequent Burlington's parks and recreate freely–from hiking to swimming to picnicking to relaxing–there is a wealth of knowledge and events that can be readily shared. Some center on history and learning while others foster connections and shared experiences.

This strategy aims to connect more people to more experiences through education and communication. By increasing awareness of the natural world and ways to engage with it, more people may become part of an ever-growing community of open space champions.

ACTIONS

- EX1.1 Collaborate to create educational tools on Burlington's natural history and stewardship story with associated places to visit.
- EX1.2 Create a central calendar that crowdsources events and volunteer efforts around the City. (See also EX1.3)
- EX1.3 Create a comprehensive open space communications and education plan to share recommendations of the open space plan. (See also EX1.2)

STRATEGY 2
Grow Public Access to Nature-Based Experiences

Burlington offers a wide variety of nature experiences, from a morning walk in the park to a weekend rafting escapade. From an afternoon watching bees and birds in a pollinator garden to a thrilling mountain biking adventure through the woods. It's not everyday that those big experiences happen–and they're not necessarily possible for or desired by everyone. Everyone should be able to experience nature every day–and it's much easier in Burlington, where nearly the entire city is within a 10-minute walk from an open space.

This strategy focuses on making those everyday nature experiences more commonplace and integrated into daily routines. It includes increasing opportunities throughout the city, partially in partnership with private and institutional landowners. Public access to private land is already happening in places like Rock Point and can be expanded to even more areas.

The upcoming Comprehensive Plan will continue to address these issues.

ACTIONS

- EX2.1 Expand "everyday" nature experiences across the city that give community members opportunities to experience green/natural spaces as part of daily routines.
- EX2.2 Continue to partner to expand public access to nature experiences. Partnerships could include, for example, private and institutional landowners, organizations, and visionaries that promote nature-based work.

EXPERIENCE Strategies

STRATEGY 3
Break Down Barriers to Open Space Access

Everyone in Burlington is within a 10-minute walk from an open space, but not all open spaces are created equal. Not only do they differ in size, nature, and types of experiences offered, they also differ in accessibility. Accessibility can refer to physical accessibility ("How easy is it for me to get to an open space by foot, bike, or car?") or cultural accessibility ("Once I get to this open space, how welcoming and comfortable of an environment is it for me? For my family?").

This strategy seeks to tackle both barriers while considering the health of important natural areas. Acknowledging that there are cultural differences in enjoying open spaces, inclusive and accessible strategies need to be employed to engage marginalized communities and integrate cultural preferences. Physical access is a priority as well, particularly by different modes, and needs to be balanced with ecological sensitivities. The Conservation Legacy Fund can be strategically used to help support improved access and accessibility through conservation infrastructure, including focusing on universal design throughout.

ACTIONS

EX3.1 Evaluate opportunities for universal access in natural areas where appropriate and considering ecological sensitivity. (See also EX3.3)

EX3.2 Improve equitable transportation access to natural areas and seek out alternative funding mechanisms.

EX3.3 Regularly engage communities who face barriers to accessing or enjoying open space to identify additional actions to increase use and where to prioritize improvements. (See also EX3.1)

EX3.4 Plan for and integrate different cultural preferences in the use of public outdoor spaces.

EX3.5 Incorporate language access in educational campaigns.

Stakeholder and public feedback included some challenges that are being accomplished outside of the Open Space Plan, including cat and dog regulations, food safety, and border management. This plan acknowledges these challenges and supports related actions in other plans.

The upcoming Comprehensive Plan will include specific strategies for improvements in multi-modal access to the Intervale.

Open Space Stories

Wildways

The Burlington Wildways partnership works together to address some of the most pressing needs for conservation, climate resilience, and equitable nature access in Burlington's urban context.

Wildways was formed by a city council resolution in 2017 to collectively steward these areas and make sure that Burlington residents know about, care about, and have access to them. With the many threats posed by a warming climate, they promote nature connection and many forms of stewardship to help save and increase biodiversity and protect ecological functions in the city. They have piloted some groundbreaking approaches, such as the school-based tree nursery program; the Wildways Stewards program that uses citizens to maintain trails, help manage non-native species and do restoration work; and the Grow Wild native plant initiative. They also host an annual City Nature Celebration.

EXPERIENCE Implementation Matrix

EX 1: Increase Awareness About Burlington's Open Spaces							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
EX 1.1	Collaborate to create and translate educational tools on Burlington's natural history and stewardship story with associated places to visit.	Parks Conservation Team	REIB, Crows Path, Master Naturalist, UVM, Shelburne Farms, ECHO, WVPD, Vermont Folklife, UVM Spatial Analysis, Generator	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
EX 1.2	Create a central calendar that crowdsources events and volunteer efforts around the City. (See also EX1.3)	Parks Communications (with LoveBurlington)	Wildways, Parks Conservation Team	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	EX 1.3
EX 1.3	Create a comprehensive open space communications and education plan to share recommendations of the open space plan. (See also EX1.2)	Parks Communications	City Planning, Park Planning, Wildways	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	EX 1.2

EX 2: Grow Public Access to Nature-Based Experiences							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
EX 2.1	Expand "everyday" nature experiences across the city that give community members opportunities to experience green/natural spaces as part of daily routines.	Parks Conservation Team, Parks Planning	DPW, Parks Communications, Neighborhoods/ individual landowners	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-
EX 2.2	Continue to partner to expand public access to nature experiences. Partnerships could include, for example, private and institutional landowners, organizations, and visionaries that promote nature-based work.	Parks	UVM, Rock Point, Intervale Center, other large landowners	-	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-

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EXPERIENCE Implementation Matrix

EX 3: Break Down Barriers to Open Space Access							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
EX 3.1	Evaluate opportunities for universal access in natural areas where appropriate and considering ecological sensitivity. (See also EX3.3)	Parks Planning	BACA	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	EX 3.3
EX 3.2	Improve equitable transportation access to natural areas and seek out alternative funding mechanisms.	Parks Planning	DPW, CCRPC	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	
EX 3.3	Regularly engage communities who face barriers to accessing or enjoying open space to identify additional actions to increase use and where to prioritize improvements. (See also EX3.1)	Parks Planning, City Planning, REIB, BACA	Liberation Ecosystem, BPRW Conservation Team, Wildways, Trusted Community Voices	YES	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	EX 3.1
EX 3.4	Plan for and integrate different cultural preferences in the use of public outdoor spaces.	Parks Planning, City Planning, REIB	Liberation Ecosystem, BPRW Conservation Team, Wildways	YES	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
EX 3.5	Incorporate language access in educational campaigns.	Parks Communications, REIB	Trusted Community Voices	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-

CULTIVATE

Growing sustainable and accessible local food systems that meet community needs

The Archibald Neighborhood Garden

CULTIVATE Overview

“Growing Local” connects us to our food and can create more sustainable food systems

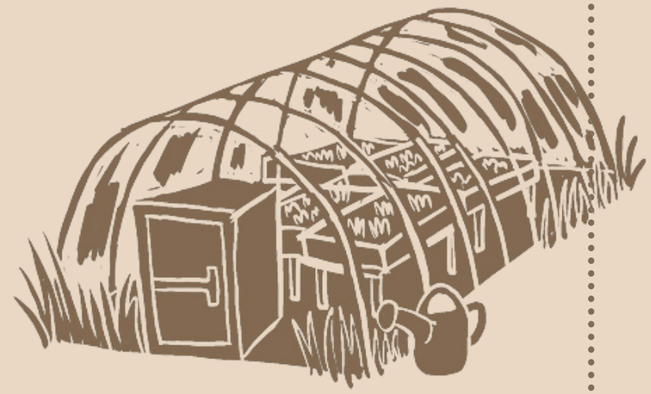
Local food systems are integral to the fabric of open space and life in Burlington, from home gardens to the community garden to the Intervale Center. More growing space is needed to meet the community’s demand, and the food system is susceptible to challenges like climate change.

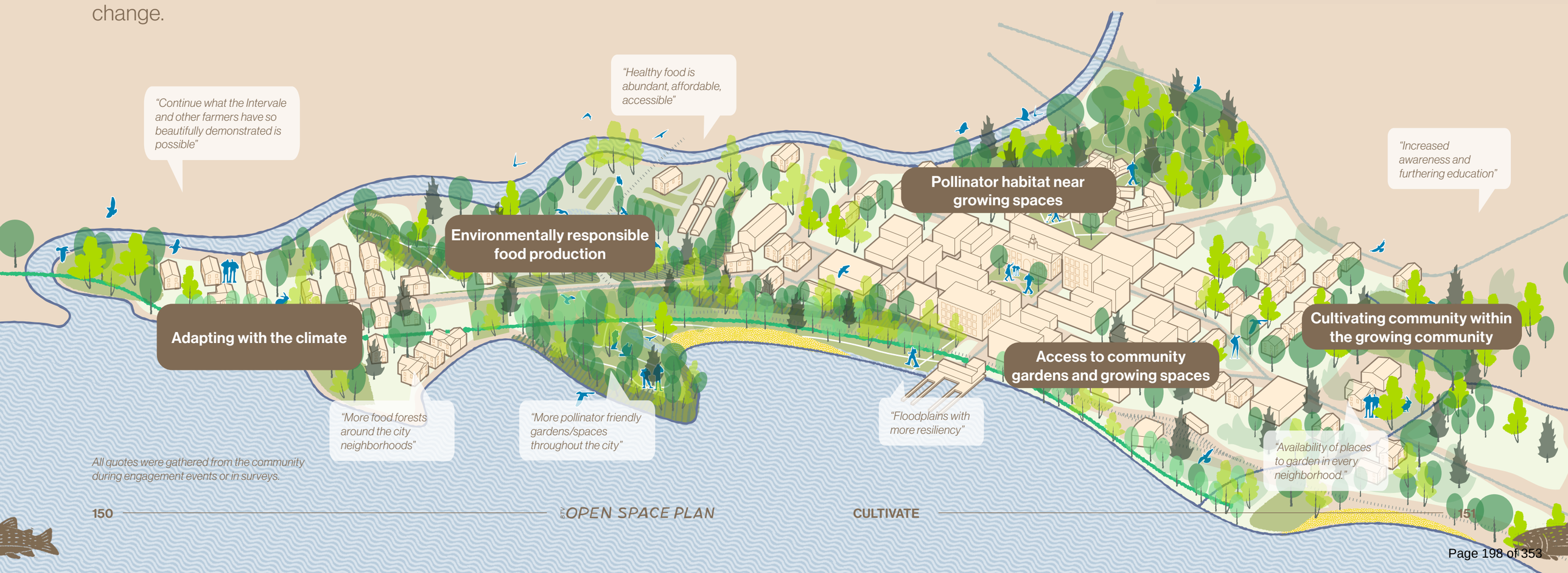
CULTIVATE Strategies

CL1 Cultivate sustainable and resilient agriculture practices

CL2 Expand community gardens and access for new community members

CL3 Support the cultivation of alternate food sources





All quotes were gathered from the community during engagement events or in surveys.

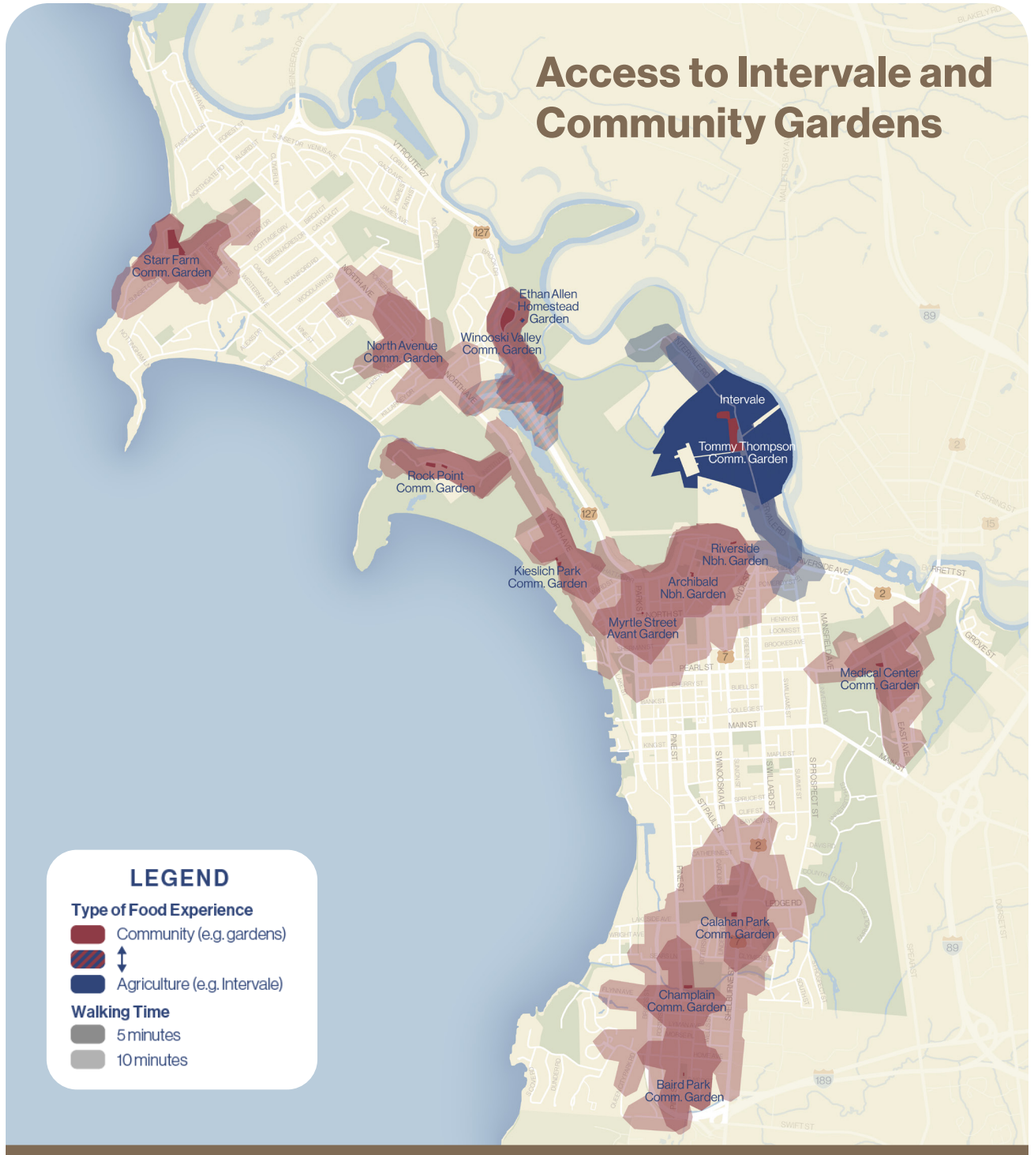
CULTIVATE Overview

Exposure to varied food experiences can strengthen local food resilience

In Burlington, food growing spaces hold deep cultural significance as symbols of community resilience, heritage, and connection to the land. For many of Burlington's immigrant communities, these spaces exemplify traditional agricultural practices, provide space for intergenerational knowledge sharing, and encourage food sovereignty. Similarly, community gardens often reclaim space for marginalized communities, nurturing identity, pride, and care. These spaces connect people closer to nature and collective health, making them vital to cultural continuity and social cohesion.

Many food procuring methods are practiced in Burlington, like regenerative agriculture, community gardening, and foraging. Exposure to them is a way to increase food experiences and strengthen local food resilience. This could lead the community to expand community gardens, promote sustainable urban agriculture, and encourage alternative food sources like food forests and foraging. There are also many opportunities to propagate growing throughout the community at-large. Community knowledge-sharing is critical to expanding and enriching the ways we cultivate, make, and source food.

Together, these efforts diversify how food is grown and accessed locally, thereby reducing reliance on commercial growing methods and improving food security. Take a look at the map to see the many food experiences are available to Burlington residents today.



Food Experiences

	% area within.... 5 walk	10 walk
Community	14%	30%
Agriculture	1%	2%
	2%	3%

Community gardens are distributed across Burlington, although there are gaps in Downtown and in the New North End. The Intervale Center is located near the mid-point of Burlington, but access is largely car-dependent.

CULTIVATE Overview

Steward Ecological Health to Sustain Long-Term Food Production

While providing access to more food experiences is important to increase awareness and encourage future stewardship of food growing spaces, the quality of those food growing and cultivating spaces is also critical. This plan identifies several strategies to ensure that Burlington also considers soil health, climate resilience, and sustainable land stewardship as part of its cultivation goals. This focus will ensure that both traditional and alternative food systems can thrive in the face of environmental challenges, such as flooding and temperature fluctuations, aggressive introduced species, and habitat pressure.

CULTIVATE Strategies

STRATEGY 1
Cultivate Sustainable and Resilient Agriculture Practices

Community-based urban agriculture and stewardship is an integral part of Burlington's open spaces. Since the creation of the first community garden, there has been a thoughtful balance between open space and food production needs throughout the city. This system is under threat, however, from climate change, aggressive introduced species, and deer overpopulation. Flooding especially has been and will continue to be a major issue as weather patterns become more unpredictable.

This strategy endeavors to address these major issues in order to ensure that urban agriculture can thrive for many generations to come. Sustainable and resilient food growing contributes to ecological benefits, such as reduction in food miles and reduced carbon footprint, that are all part of the city's climate strategies. Underlying it is also a focus on soils: as soils are the core resource to farming, understanding them and how to maintain their health is critical to ensuring they remain fertile and retain growing potential.

ACTIONS

CL1.1 Continue to plan for resilient agriculture strategies in the Intervale as climate and flood risks increase.

CL1.2 Develop and implement deer management strategies, and track progress.

CL1.3 Work with other agencies to educate and share resources on soil health information and remediation, aiming to create a resource similar to Dig Safe to emphasize safe soils for safe food.

CL1.4 Conduct a holistic inventory of available lands in City (both public and private) available for potential food production.

STRATEGY 2
Expand Community Gardens

There are currently 14 community gardens managed by the Burlington Area Community Gardens (BACG) program with plots ranging from 100 square-feet to 750 square-feet. The program not only connects people with plots of land but also encourages community partnerships through community days and knowledge sharing. They foster a close relationship with food and provide food security.

While these gardens are well-loved, demand historically has been and continues to be much higher than supply. There is a great need for more community gardening space, especially as the city continues to grow. This strategy seeks to identify partnerships that can identify where community gardens can be expanded and to set and track goals for expansion. It also emphasizes that education for private land owners is critical to expanding growing opportunities on both private land and in neighborhood community gardens.

ACTIONS

CL2.1 Partner with community and other groups to explore new spaces for community gardens and community agriculture (especially in areas with less vehicle access, higher percentage of low-income residents, and less access to grocery stores).

CL2.2 Track garden plots per capita to establish baseline conditions and evaluate unmet demand. Set and track mid-term and long-term goals for community garden spaces.

CL2.3 Address the need for more community gardens with actions like:

- Conduct city land asset study for community garden opportunities.
- Document and review process for plot distribution
- Proactively .work with neighborhoods to identify potential community garden spaces and support with the Conservation Legacy Fund.
- Encourage and direct expansion of capacity at existing sites with elements like new raised beds and support infrastructure.
- Consider out-of-the-box opportunities, such as rooftop gardens, and innovative practices, such as vertical garden opportunities.

CL2.4 Incentivize creation of community gardens with new and redevelopment through green design standards.

STRATEGY 3
Support the Cultivation of Alternate Food Sources

Gardening is not the only method for sourcing food outside of a commercial environment: the natural world is full of edible plants. Alternative food sources like food forests and the practice of foraging for wild food sources have gradually spread in recent years, partially as a sustainable activity and partially as a safeguard against food insecurity. The Intervale Center, for example, began the first phase of the Agroforestery Riparian Buffer Project in 2024 to "demonstrate the feasibility of a large scale implementation of agroforestry while satisfying the need to enhance the riparian buffer along the Winooski River." This effort can both grow perennial food producing plants and support climate resilience by protecting growing lands and creating additional habitats for birds and beneficial insects.

There sometimes is, however, a conflict between the desire or need for foraging and conservation goals. This strategy not only acknowledges foraging as a viable method but also encourages sustainable foraging practices. Food forests can be planned for and educational resources can be shared to ensure responsible cultivation of foraging practices. These strategies will need to consider the legal environment around community food sources on public property.

ACTIONS

CL3.1 Plan for food forests, including consideration of tree choices to allow for more community food production. (See also CL3.2)

CL3.2 Work with the public to facilitate responsible, safe, and sustainable foraging communities. (See also CL3.1)

CL3.3 Create an inventory of potential food forest spaces and feasibility study.

CL3.4 *See also in CS2.1 CONSERVE: Create network of pollinator-friendly and native plant gardens across the city.*

Open Space Stories

New Farms for New Americans

What began in 2008 as a workforce development program under the Association of Africans Living in Vermont (AALV) has evolved into a community-based gardening and agriculture program for refugees and immigrants.

Each year, NFNA connects around 100 participants with plots of land in the Intervale and Ethan Allen Homestead for subsistence farming–for consumption or for sale–and offers education and training on adapting farming practices to Vermont's climate.

This program not only helps farmers grow culturally significant crops like snake gourd, African eggplants, and daikon but also increases food security, fosters cross-cultural communities, and contributes to local climate resilience.

CULTIVATE Implementation Matrix

CL 1: Cultivate Sustainable and Resilient Agriculture Practices							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CL 1.1	Continue to plan for resilient agriculture strategies in the Intervale as climate and flood risks increase.	Intervale Center	Farmers, UVM AgroEcology, Parks Conservation Team, VT Garden Network, CEDO (with NRCS)	YES	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CL 1.2	Develop and implement deer management strategies, and track progress.	Conservation Board	Parks Conservation Team, Intervale Center	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CL 1.3	Work with other agencies to educate and share resources on soil health information and remediation, aiming to create a resource similar to Dig Safe to emphasize safe soils for safe food.	NRCS, CEDO	NRCS, Conservation Districts, UVM Extension Service	-	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-
CL 1.4	Conduct a holistic inventory of available lands in City (both public and private) available for potential food production.	Parks Conservation Team	Innovation & Technology	YES	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CL 2: Expand Community Gardens							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CL 2.1	Partner with community and other groups to explore new spaces for community gardens and community agriculture (especially in areas with less vehicle access, higher percentage of low-income residents, and less access to grocery stores).	City Planning, Parks Conservation Team	Vermont Garden Network	-	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-
CL 2.2	Track garden plots per capita to establish baseline conditions and evaluate unmet demand. Set and track mid-term and long-term goals for community garden spaces.	Parks Conservation Team	Community gardeners, Vermont Garden Network	YES	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CL 2.3	Address the need for more community gardens with actions like: • Conduct city land asset study for community garden opportunities. • Document and review process for plot distribution • Proactively work with neighborhoods to identify potential community garden spaces and support with the Conservation Legacy Fund. • Encourage and direct expansion of capacity at existing sites with elements like new raised beds and support infrastructure. • Consider out-of-the-box opportunities, such as rooftop gardens, and innovative practices, such as vertical garden opportunities.	Parks Conservation Team	City Planning, DPI	YES	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CL 2.4	Incentivize creation of community gardens with new and redevelopment through green design standards.	DPI	City Planning, Parks Conservation Team	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-

CULTIVATE Implementation Matrix

CL 3: Support the Cultivation of Alternate Food Sources							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CL 3.1	Plan for food forests, including consideration of tree choices to allow for more community food production. (See also CL3.2)	Park Planning or Conservation Team	Parks Conservation Team	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	CL3.2
CL 3.2	Work with the public to facilitate responsible, safe, and sustainable foraging communities. (See also CL3.1)	Intervale Center	WVPD, Parks Communications and Conservation Teams, Rock Point, UVM	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	CL3.1
CL 3.3	Create an inventory of potential food forest spaces and conduct a feasibility study.	Parks Conservation Team, Intervale Center	Innovation & Technology	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CL 3.4	*See also in CS2.1 CONSERVE: Create network of pollinator-friendly and native plant gardens across the city.*	-	-	-	-	-	-

Arms Forest

4

Way Ahead

Implementing the Open Space Plan will be a team effort. This chapter looks at opportunities to work together—and dream big!—for the future of our open spaces.

How can I contribute?

The Open Space Plan is a roadmap to guide the City of Burlington and its many partners and collaborators as they work together to invest in a thriving open space system for future generations.

While the City is the primary author of this document, and many of the actions will be led by the City, the City cannot implement this plan alone. It will require the investment of everyone in Burlington to make this plan a success. Below are Burlington's open space stewards and key actions that each group will need to champion.

Large Land Stewards

- Contribute to **monitoring of important restoration and wildlife indicators** including aggressive, introduced species, and water quality - *See Strategies CS 1.1, 1.6, 2.2, 2.4, and CL1.2*
- Help **expand public access to nature experiences** - *See Strategy EX 2.2*
- **Alleviate the impacts of climate change** by managing stormwater on-site, expanding tree canopy, and reducing impervious surfaces - *See Strategies CN 1.5 and CN 3.2*

Community Organizations

- **Expand access to food cultivation and pollinator-friendly and native gardens** throughout the city through advocacy and City partnerships - *See Strategies CL 3.1 and CS 2.1*
- **Join a consortium of like-minded organizations** and share resources and best practices - *See Strategy CN 2.1*
- **Participate in recurring summits and sustained communications** to strengthen collaboration and increase awareness of city and community initiatives. - *See Strategy CN 2.2*

Development Community

- Lean into **sustainable/ ecological nature-based approaches to development** - *See Strategy CN 4.3*
- **Contribute to the development of Green Design Standards** for new developments and redevelopments to ensure standards balance fiscal realities with aspirations for sustainable building - *See Strategy CN 4.1*

Governmental Partners

- Collaborate across agencies to **identify opportunities for nature-based solutions** in all city, county, and state projects - *See Strategy CS 1.6*
- **Engage seniors and youth** in expanding awareness of nature-based climate solutions - *See Strategy CN 1.2, CN 1.3, and CN 1.5*
- **Retain citywide Nature-based Climate Solutions positions** like the Land Steward and Nature-Based Climate Solutions Field Coordinator

Homeowners with Yards

- Consult with the BLUE program to **add a rain garden or other green infrastructure** to absorb rainfall - *See Strategy CL 3.3*
- Consider replacing non-native plants with native lawn alternatives to **grow not mow** and contribute to a healthier lake, native ecology, and people! - *See Strategies CN 1.2 and CN 1.4*
- **Retain mature trees and plant new trees** to help grow the city's tree canopy and clean our air- *See Strategy CN 3.2 and CN 3.2*

Everybody!

- **Get out into your open spaces, trails, and forests** - *See Strategy EX 1.2, 2.1, and 2.2*
- Learn how to **responsibly forage for food** in forests and other open spaces - *See Strategy CL 3.2*
- **Volunteer** with the city or local community steward - *See Strategy EX 1.2*
- **Learn more about your open spaces** and **spread the word** to neighbors *See Strategy CS 2.4*
- **Participate** in processes to improve open spaces - *See Strategy EX 1.3*

Wild Ideas

Throughout the Open Space Plan process, Burlington residents, land stewards, and other stakeholders shared some out-of-the-box ideas to help guide future investment in and enjoyment of Burlington's open space network and urban wildlife.

Below are a few of Burlington's big ideas! Many of these are tactics or projects that align with the goals and strategies of the plan, and if the funding opportunities and community visions align - these ideas will go a long way in transforming Burlington into a nature-filled city.

Comprehensive Plan Corner

As the City prepares to embark on a new comprehensive plan, there are a few recommendations within the Open Space Plan that will be important to carry forward into the future comprehensive planning.

CS 4.1 Review and update acquisition list and criteria.

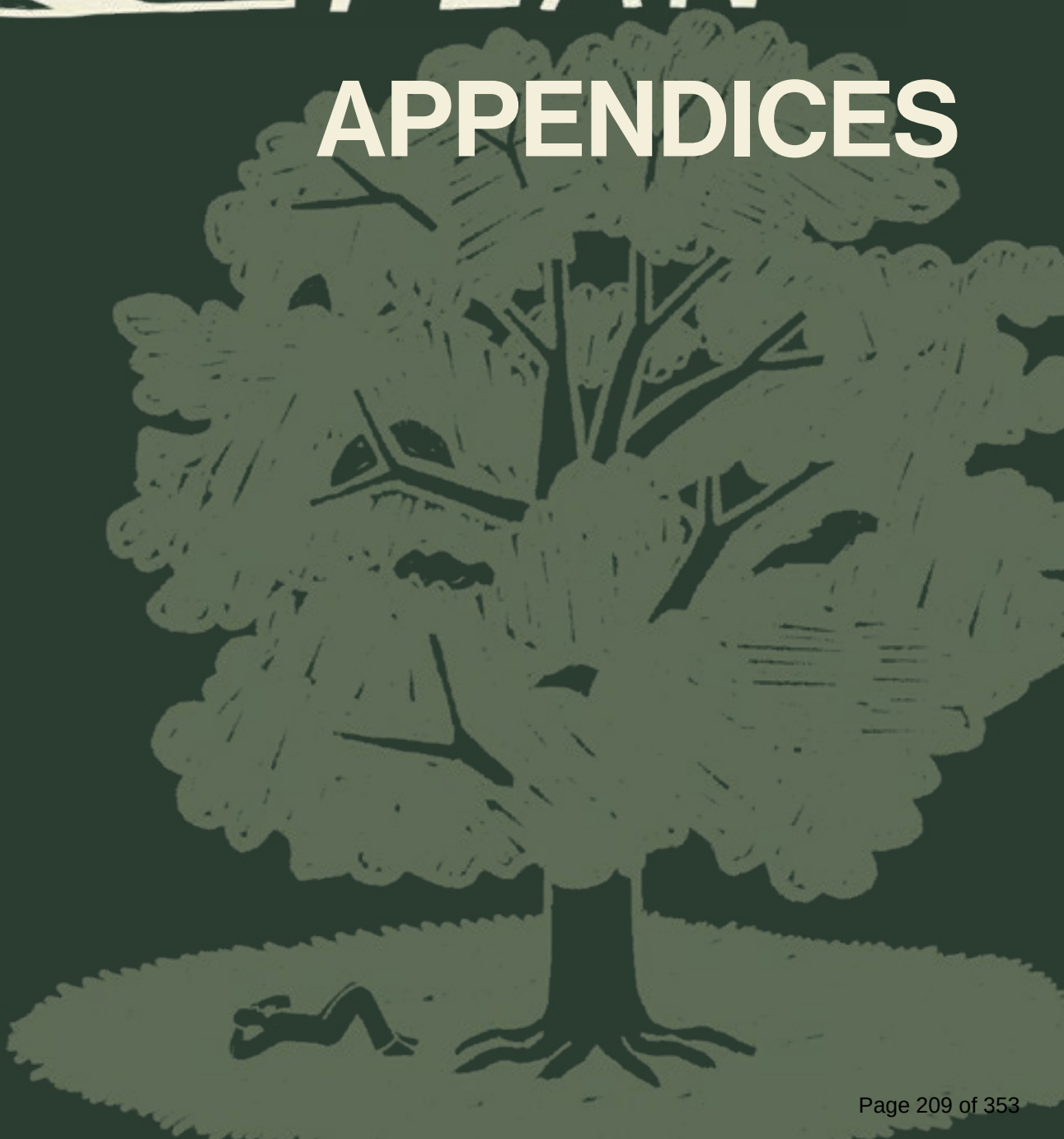
EX 2.1 Expand "everyday" nature experiences across the city that give community members opportunities to experience green/natural spaces as part of daily routines and without driving.

Additional Considerations Improve multi-modal access to the Intervale in conjunction with existing plans; include adequate funding to ensure creation of critical access.

Advance planning around the use of City-owned open spaces for shelter by people experiencing homelessness to ensure ecological health and integrity, public safety, and equitable access, while also planning for equitable access to permanently affordable housing for all Burlington residents.

BURLINGTON OPEN SPACE PLAN

APPENDICES



LIST OF APPENDICES:

APPENDIX A: Open Space Map Sections

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APPENDIX A:
Open Space Map Sections

LEGEND
Burlington Border
Trail or Greenway
Bike Infrastructure
Tree Canopy
Parks & Natural Areas
Community Garden
Beach
Water
Wetland
Derway Island
Delta Park
Halfmoon Cove
Halfmoon Cove WMA
CHURCH RD
Winooski River
Intervale WMA
Northshore Natural Area
Mount Calvary Red Maple Wetland
Macrae Farm Park
Starr Farm Park
Schifilliti Park
NEW NORTH END
127
Starr Farm Comm. Garden
Ethan Allen Park
Burlington Greenway
Appletree Park
North Avenue Comm. Garden
Winooski Valley Comm. Garden
Ethan Allen Homestead Garden
Leddy Park
Pomerleau Forest
Burlington Wildway
Leddy Beach
Arms Forest
127 Bike Path
Rock Point Comm. Garden
Rock Point
Arthur Park
Lakeview Cemetery
North Beach
Texaco Beach
Kieslich Park Comm. Garden
N
A2
0
0.25
0.5
1
Miles

LEGEND
Burlington Border
Trail or Greenway
Bike Infrastructure
Tree Canopy
Parks & Natural Areas
Community Garden
Beach
Water
Wetland
WMA
Macrae Farm Park
Intervale
Schifilliti Park
Ethan Allen Park
North Avenue Comm. Garden
Winooski Valley Comm. Garden
Ethan Allen Homestead Garden
McKenzie Park
Winooski River
Burlington Wildway
Arms Forest
127 Bike Path
Tommy Thompson Comm. Garden
Rock Point Comm. Garden
Rock Point
Arthur Park
Lakeview Cemetery
Riverside Neighborhood Comm. Garden
North Beach
Texaco Beach
Kieslich Park Comm. Garden
Old Manhattan Landfill
Roosevelt Park
Archibald Nbh. Garden
Kieslich Park
OLD NORTH END
Myrtle Street Avant Garden
Urban Reserve
Pomeroy Park
Elmwood Cemetery
Andy A Dog Skate Park
Battery Park
Waterfront Park
DOWNTOWN
City Hall Park
Roundhouse Park
Smalley Park
N
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Path
Thompson Comm. Garden
Intervale
WINOOSKI
Arthur Park
Lakeview Cemetery
127
Riverside Neighborhood Comm. Garden
Kieslich Park Comm. Garden
Old Manhattan Landfill
Roosevelt Park
Archibald Nbh. Garden
Winooski River
Kieslich Park
OLD NORTH END
Pomeroy Park
Myrtle Street Avant Garden
Urban Reserve
Schmanska Park
Winooski Valley Park District
Greenmount Cemetery
Centennial Brook
Valley Ridge
Andy A Dog Skate Park
Elmwood Cemetery
Medical Center Comm. Garden
Battery Park
Waterfront Park
DOWNTOWN
UNIVERSITY DISTRICT
Centennial Woods
City Hall Park
Roundhouse Park
Smalley Park
SOUTH END
Burlington Greenway
HILL SECTION
Calahan Park
Burlington Country Club
Calahan Park Comm. Garden
Restone Quarry Natural Area
Lakeside Park
Blanchard Beach
Champlain Comm. Garden
Englesby Brook
Crescent Woods
Oakledge Cove
Oakledge Park
Baird Park
Baird Park Comm. Garden
East Woods Natural Area
Red Rocks Park
Potash Brook
Farrell Street Park
A4
LEGEND
Burlington Border
Trail or Greenway
Bike Infrastructure
Tree Canopy
Parks & Natural Areas
Community Garden
Beach
Water
Wetland
N
0
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1
Miles

APPENDIX B:
University of Vermont
Spatial Analysis Lab
Tree Canopy Assessment

2014–2023

Tree Canopy Assessment

Burlington, VT

PREPARED BY:

The University of Vermont

PREPARED FOR:

City of Burlington

THE NEED FOR GREEN

Trees provide essential ecosystem services in Burlington, like reducing stormwater runoff, cooling the pavement in the summer and providing wildlife habitat. Trees are an indispensable part of the region's infrastructure. Research shows that these green assets can improve social cohesion, reduce crime, and raise property values. A healthy and robust tree canopy is crucial to building a more livable and prosperous town.

As with any community, Burlington faces a host of environmental challenges while seeking to balance development and conservation. A healthy and robust tree canopy is crucial for maintaining this balance, providing the city's residents with a resource that will impact the health and well-being of generations to come.

TREE CANOPY ASSESSMENT

For decades governments have mapped and monitored their infrastructure to support effective management practices. Traditionally, that mapping has primarily focused on gray infrastructure, including features such as roads and buildings. Left out of this mapping has been an accounting of the green infrastructure.

The Tree Canopy Assessment protocols were developed by the USDA Forest Service to help communities better understand their green infrastructure through tree canopy mapping and analytics. Tree canopy is the layer of leaves, branches, and stems that provide tree coverage of the ground when viewed from above. A Tree Canopy Assessment can provide vital information to help governments and residents chart a greener future by helping them understand the tree canopy they have, how it has changed, and where there is room to plant trees. Tree Canopy Assessments have been carried out for over 100 communities in North America. This study assessed tree canopy for Burlington over the 2014 - 2023 period.

TREE CANOPY BY THE NUMBERS

Burlington is losing tree canopy. Tree canopy change was computed by mapping the no change, gains, and losses in tree canopy from 2014 - 2023.

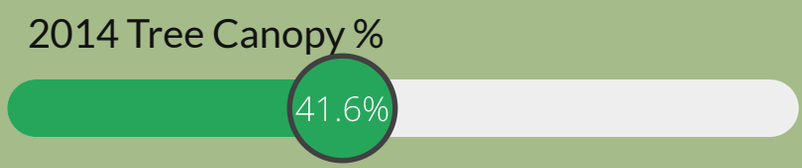
40%
2023 EXISTING TREE CANOPY

2,620
2023 EXISTING TREE CANOPY ACRES

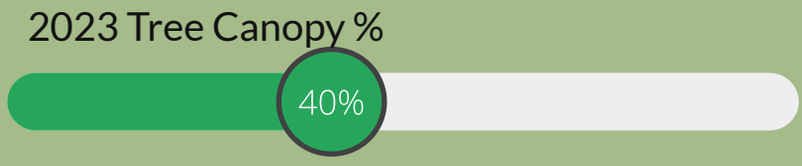
-109
2014 - 2023 ACRES CHANGE

-1.6%
2014 - 2023 ABSOLUTE CHANGE

Change in tree canopy from 2014 - 2023



-1.6%
Absolute change in tree canopy

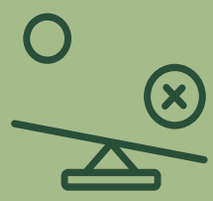


-4%
Relative change in tree canopy

228
Acres of Gain

337
Acres of Loss

Burlington was estimated to have 111,912 individual trees in 2023.



Losses in tree canopy are outpacing gains, resulting in a net decrease in tree canopy.

Growth of existing tree canopy is the biggest contributor to tree canopy gains.

FINDINGS

Despite net tree canopy losses, local gains in tree canopy coverage were possible thanks to preservation and planting initiatives.

Tree canopy loss is neither evenly distributed nor similar. It varies from removal of individual trees in backyards to clearing of patches of trees for new construction.

Burlington can improve environmental equity by prioritizing tree plantings in neighborhoods most susceptible to environmental risk.

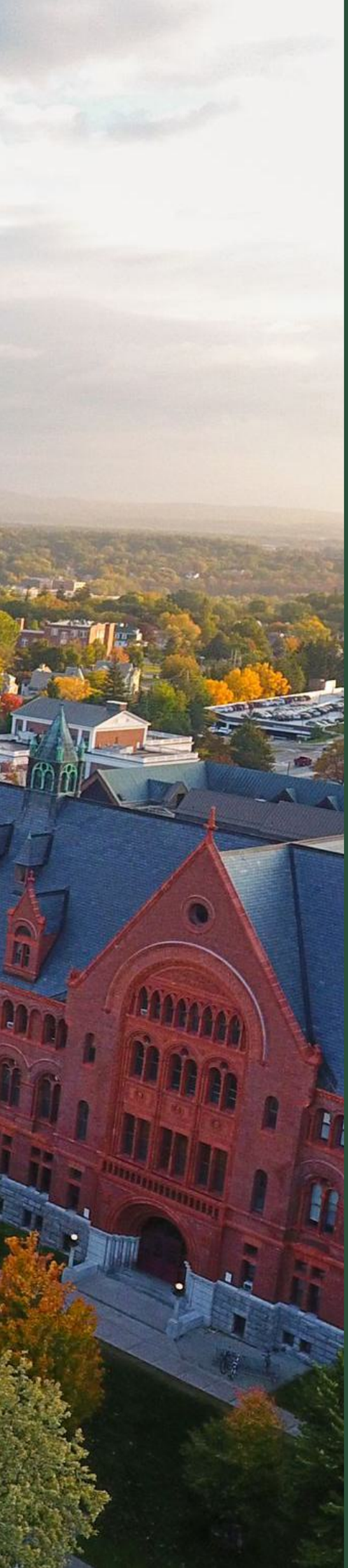
To enhance urban resilience, Burlington can improve access to trees and the benefits that they provide.

Growth of existing tree canopy is the biggest contributor to Burlington's tree canopy gains.

Land use history, urban forestry initiatives, natural processes, and landowner decisions, all play a role in influencing the current state of tree canopy in the city.

37.5% of Burlington's tree canopy exists on residential parcels. Engaging with land owners will be key to managing the city's tree canopy.

33% of Burlington's land area is covered by grass or shrub area that could theoretically be used to plant more trees and increase canopy cover.



RECOMMENDATIONS

Preserving existing tree canopy is the most effective means for securing future tree canopy, as loss is an event but gain is a process.

Planting new trees in areas where tree canopy is low or in locations where there has been tree canopy removed will also help the city grow canopy.

Having trees with a broad age distribution and a variety of species will ensure that a robust and healthy tree canopy is possible over time.

Community education is crucial if tree canopy is to be maintained over time. Residents that are knowledgeable about the value of trees will help the city stay green for years to come.

Integrate the tree canopy change assessment data into planning decisions at all levels of government from individual park improvements, to comprehensive planning and zoning initiatives, to citywide ordinances.

Reassess the tree canopy at 3-5 year intervals to monitor change and make strategic management decisions.

Tree canopy assessments require high-quality, high-resolution data. Continue to invest in LiDAR and imagery to support these assessments and other mapping needs.

Field data collection efforts should be used to compliment this assessment as information on tree species, size, and health can only be obtained through on-the-ground inventories.

THE TREE CANOPY ASSESSMENT PROCESS

This project employed the USDA Forest Service's Urban Tree Canopy assessment protocols and made use of federal, state, and local investments in geospatial data. Tree canopy assessments should be completed at regular intervals, every 3-5 years.

Remotely sensed data forms the foundation of the tree canopy assessment. We use high-resolution aerial imagery and LiDAR to map tree canopy and other land cover features.

The land cover data consist of tree canopy, grass/shrub, bare soil, water, buildings, roads/railroads, and other impervious features.

The land cover data are summarized by various geographical units, ranging from the property parcel to the watershed to the municipal boundary.

The report (this document) summarizes the project methods, results, and findings.

The presentation, given to partners and stakeholders in the region, provides the opportunity to ask questions about the assessment.

The tree canopy metrics data analytics provide basic summary statistics in addition to inferences on the relationship between tree canopy and other variables.

These summaries, in the form of tree canopy metrics, are an exhaustive geospatial database that enables the Existing and Possible Tree Canopy to be analyzed.

The Importance of Good Data

This assessment would not have been possible without Burlington's investment in high-quality geospatial data, particularly LiDAR. These investments pay dividends for a variety of uses, from stormwater management to solar potential mapping. This LiDAR will help Burlington advance risk management plans by creating the tree centroids needed to run a risk analysis. Good data supports good governance.

MAPPING THE TREE CANOPY FROM ABOVE

Tree canopy assessments rely on remotely sensed data in the form of aerial imagery and light detection and ranging (LiDAR) data. These datasets, which have been acquired by various governmental agencies in the region, are the foundational information for tree canopy mapping. Imagery provides information that enables features to be distinguished by their spectral (color) properties. As trees and shrubs can appear spectrally similar, or obscured by shadow, LiDAR, which consists of 3D height information, enhances the accuracy of the mapping. Tree canopy mapping is performed using a scientifically rigorous process that integrates cutting-edge automated feature extraction technologies with detailed manual reviews and editing. This combination of sensor and mapping technologies enabled the city's tree canopy to be mapped in greater detail and with better accuracy than ever before. From a single street tree along a roadside to a patch of trees in a park, every tree in Burlington was accounted for.

Tree Canopy Mapping

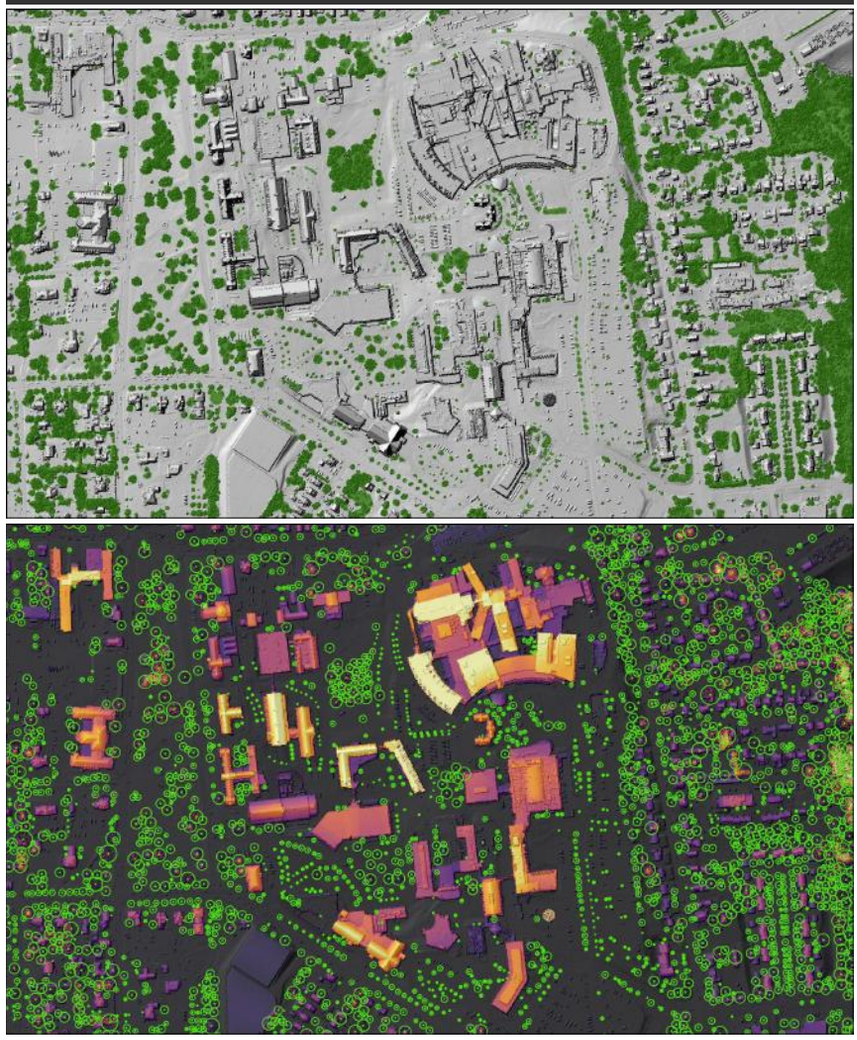


Figure 1. Locations of individual trees and their crowns (top) that were derived from the 2023 LiDAR (bottom).

The high-resolution land cover that forms the foundation of this project was generated from the most recent LiDAR, which was acquired in 2023. Compared to national tree canopy datasets, which map at a resolution of 30-meters, this project generated maps that were over 1,000 times more detailed and better account for all of the city's tree canopy.

Land Cover Mapping

Figure 2. High-resolution land cover developed for this project.

TREE COUNT

111,912+ Individual Trees

Burlington has over 111,912 individual trees, an estimate that was derived from the 2023 LiDAR data.

Tree Crowns & Centroids

Trees, particularly individual ones located in parks, on streets, on college greens, and on residential lands, require attention, care, and maintenance to thrive. In addition to quantifying the town's tree canopy acreage and percent coverage, this study produced an estimate of the number of individual trees in Burlington. This analysis was performed using the 2023 LiDAR data. While not a replacement for field-based inventories, LiDAR provides a unique advantage in that all of Burlington's trees can be counted. With Burlington having an estimated over 111,912 trees, it is important that tree maintenance remains a high priority for land managers. Tree maintenance and care activities will ensure that these critical green infrastructure assets thrive in a challenging urban environment.

Figure 3. Tree centroids (dots) and tree crowns (circles) mapped from the 2023 LiDAR. Tree mapping from LiDAR involves finding relative high points for each tree, then tracing down until a height inflection point is reached, marking the edge of the crown. This approach to individual tree mapping is most accurate where there is a clear differentiation in tree crowns and is less accurate in forested stands where crowns may overlap.

EQUITY & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Environmental Equity & Urban Resilience

Like many cities in the United States, Burlington faces environmental risks and challenges relating to the urban environment. Trees, when properly cared for, can serve as a solution to create a sustainable and more resilient Burlington. However, resiliency requires preparedness to overcome shocks to Burlington and the community, and a crucial component of Burlington resilience are its residents.

Thus, to enhance urban resilience, we recommend Burlington targets neighborhoods lacking access to tree canopy cover, and for tree planting prioritization to be further informed by the distribution of demographic groups that are typically more susceptible to environmental risks. These include historically marginalized populations like racial and ethnic minorities and residents living in poverty.

In Burlington, distributions of census blocks with greater presence of Non-White residents and little tree canopy cover closely resemble the distributions of census blocks with greater presence of poverty and little tree canopy. It is likely that these demographics, which are typically interrelated, are also more exposed to environmental challenges due to a lack of trees available to provide important benefits that mitigate them.

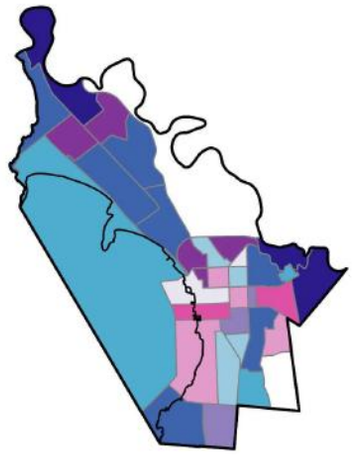
SUCEPTIBILITY AND INEQUITY

-

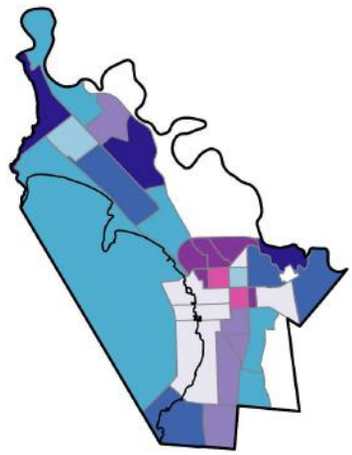
VARIOUS DEMOGRAPHICS* ARE AT GREATER RISK AGAINST ISSUES THAT IMPACT CITIES

*Other demographics at risk besides those illustrated include:

- Hispanic population
- Individuals that had strokes
- Children younger than 5
- Adults older than 65
- Individuals exposed through daily commuted (walking or public transportation)
- Individuals living in areas with hazard risk like sewage overflows



% Non-White (2020 ACS)



% Households with Annual Income < $25,000 (2020 ACS)

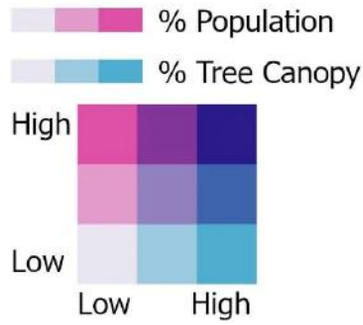


Figure 4: These maps show percent existing tree canopy cover in relation to two demographic groups that are highly interrelated and typically within the most susceptible groups against environmental challenges. Shades of pink indicate tree canopy percentage by block group, with the darkest shade indicating higher percentages. Meanwhile, shades of blue indicate percentage of residents within each of the demographic groups, with the darkest shade indicating higher percentages.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Environmental Stressors & Neighborhood Prioritization

With an increase in severe storms and extreme weather across the country, flooding and rising temperatures are two environmental challenges that impact the city of Burlington. Using both the Urban Flood Risk Mitigation and the Urban Cooling modules of the Integrated Valuation of Ecosystem Services and Tradeoffs (InVEST) tool, we were able to identify census block groups that are more at risk of flooding and high temperatures with current tree canopy.

The maps below can be used to determine tree planting allocation to strengthen community resilience against flooding and rising temperatures.

Mitigation Capacity by Local Vegetation

Flooding is of great concern for Burlignton. Trees can be critical in bank stabilization, water quality protection, and absorbing water during high precipitation events. Surface runoff retention **(a)**, as mapped with the Urban Flood Risk Mitigation module of the InVEST tool, represents the capacity for the current vegetation and soil to retain water during rain events. Areas with low runoff retention may benefit from increased tree plantings due to the capacity of vegetation acting as riparian buffers filtering runoff and absorbing precipitation into the soil. The heat island effect has a considerable impact on cities, and rising temperatures can result in fatalities (particularly among the elderly and those with cardiovascular diseases). The capacity of local vegetation to mitigate rising temperatures **(b)** varies throughout Burlington's urban landscape.

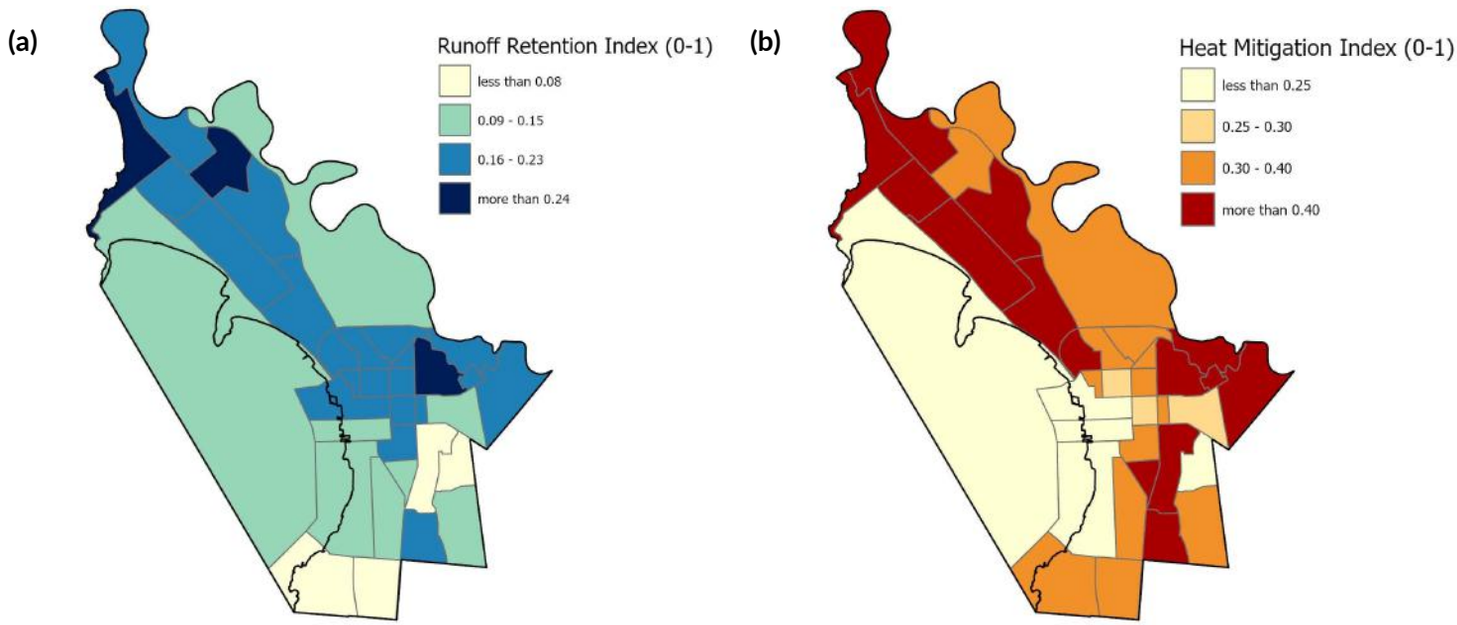


*Figure 5: **(a)** The runoff retention index indicates retention of surface runoff as mapped. The map ranges from zero (indicating low retention of runoff) to one (indicating high retention of runoff). **(b)** The heat mitigation index ranges from zero (low mitigation capacity) to one (high mitigation capacity) and was modeled with InVEST.*

LANDCOVER

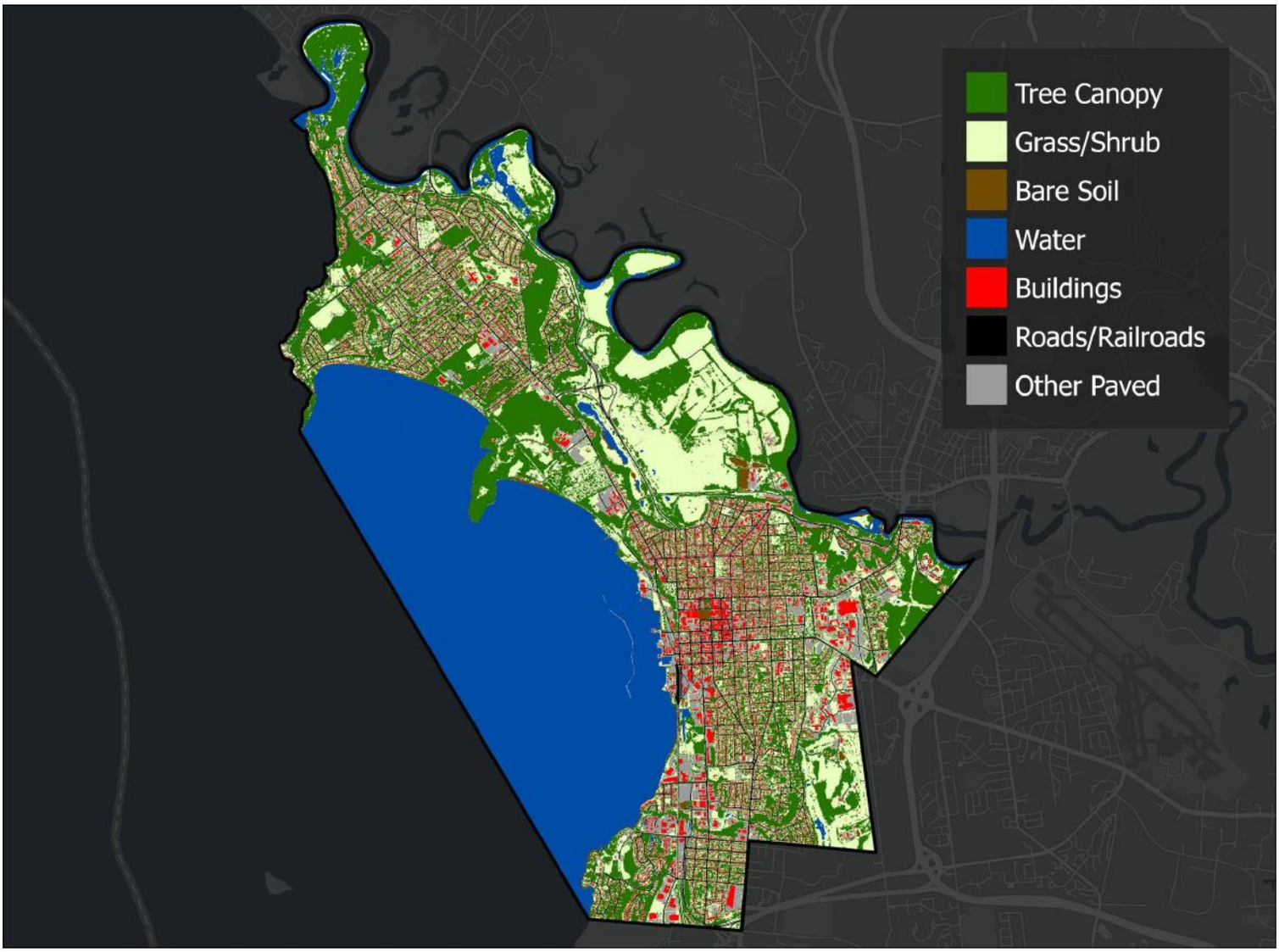


Figure 6. The new 2023 landcover for Burlington *was used in this assessment to quantify existing tree canopy, possible tree canopy - vegetated, possible tree canopy - impervious, and not suitable. The following terminology is used throughout this report.*

Key Terms

Existing Tree Canopy - The amount of tree canopy present when viewed from above using aerial or satellite imagery.

Possible Tree Canopy - **Vegetated:** Grass or shrub area that is theoretically available for **the** establishment of tree canopy.

Possible Tree Canopy - **Impervious:** Asphalt, **concrete** or bare soil surfaces, excluding roads and buildings, that are theoretically available for the establishment of tree canopy

Not Suitable - Areas where it is highly unlikely that new tree canopy could be established (primarily buildings and roads).

Measuring Tree Canopy Change

Area Change - the change in the **area of** tree canopy between the two time periods.

Relative % Change - the magnitude of change in tree canopy based on the amount of tree canopy in 2014.

Absolute % Change - the percentage point change between the two time periods.

TREE CANOPY METRICS

40% *of Burlington's land is covered by tree canopy*

Tree canopy and tree canopy change were summarized at various geographical units of analysis, ranging from tax parcels to watersheds. These tree canopy metrics provide information on the area of Existing and Possible Tree Canopy for each geographical unit.

Existing Tree Canopy

Cities commonly have uneven distribution of tree canopy, a pattern that applies to Burlington. There are some 10-acre hexagons with less than 5% tree canopy and others with nearly 100% tree canopy (Figure 7). This unequal distribution can be traced back to Burlington's history of development patterns and open space planning. Those residents who live and work in more treed areas (darker green hexagons) benefit disproportionately from the ecosystem services that trees provide. Conversely, the more urbanized regions of the Burlington have lower amounts of tree canopy and therefore receive fewer ecosystem services from trees.

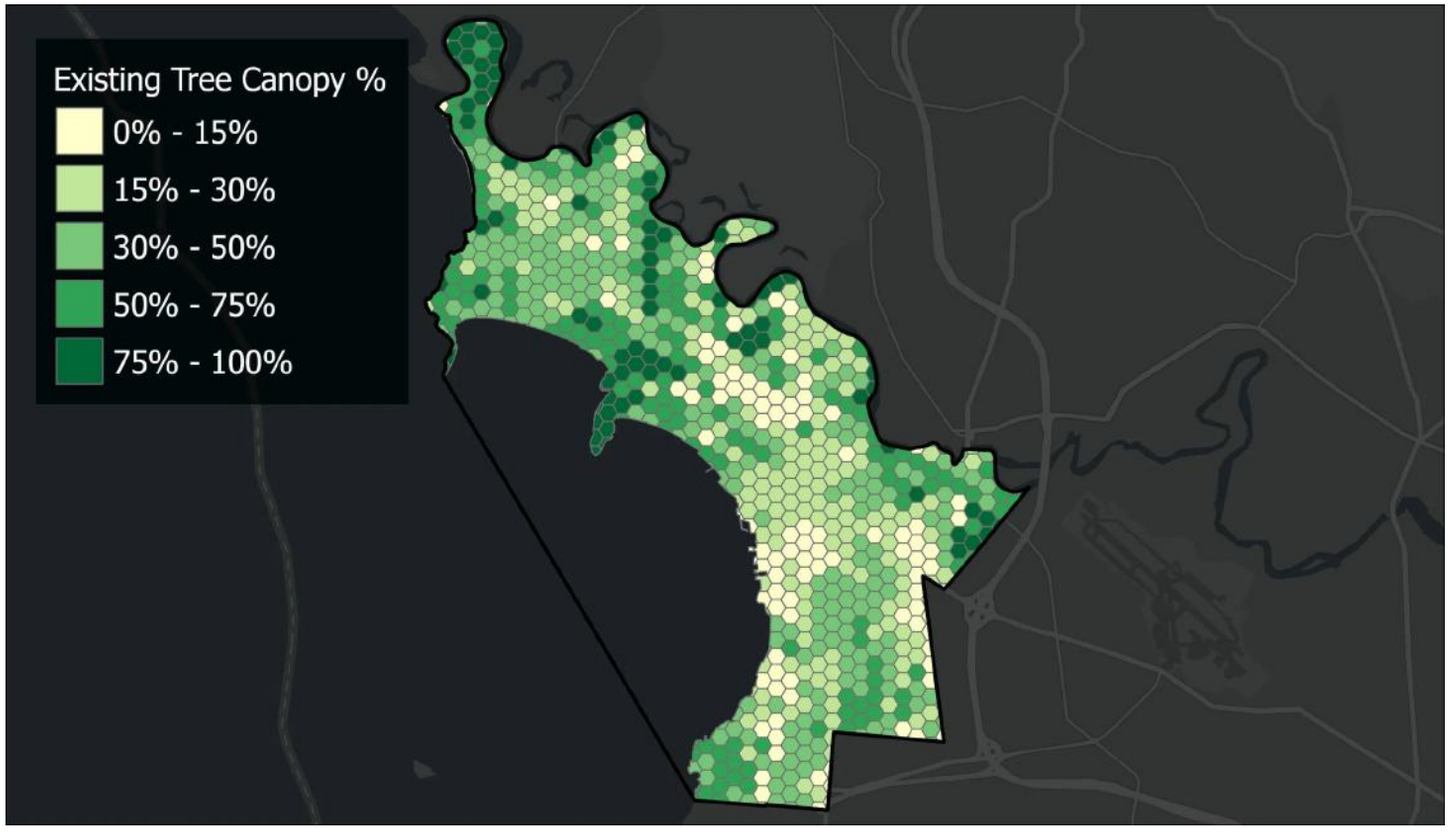


Figure 7. Existing tree canopy percentage for 2023 conditions summarized using 10-acre hexagons. For each of the hexagons, the percent tree canopy was calculated by dividing the amount of tree canopy by the land area, which excludes water. Using hexagons as the unit of analysis provides a standard mechanism for visualizing the distribution of tree canopy without the constraints of other geographies that have unequal area (e.g., zip codes).

Possible New Tree Canopy

There is available space in Burlington to plant more trees. In this assessment, any areas with no trees, buildings, roads, or bodies of water are considered Possible-Vegetation and represent locations in which trees could theoretically be established without having to remove hard surfaces. Many factors go into deciding where a tree can be planted with the necessary conditions to flourish, including land use, landscape conditions, social attitudes towards trees, and financial considerations. Examples include golf courses and recreational fields. While there is open space to plant trees, there is a direct conflict in use; thus, the Possible-Vegetation category should serve as a guide for further field analysis, not a prescription of where to plant trees. With 2,181 acres of land (comprising 33% of the the city's land area) falling into the Possible-Vegetation category, there remain significant opportunities for planting trees and preserving canopy that will improve the city's total tree canopy in the long term.

In Burlington's most densely urbanized areas, significantly increasing the tree canopy will be difficult; nevertheless, it remains vitally important to strive for canopy gains. In the Burlington's residential areas, healthy natural regeneration of the existing tree canopy and planting new trees will be important. There is often a "plant and forget" cycle in residential areas, where trees are generally planted when homes are built, without the follow-up to replace trees as they decline to establish the next generation of canopy.

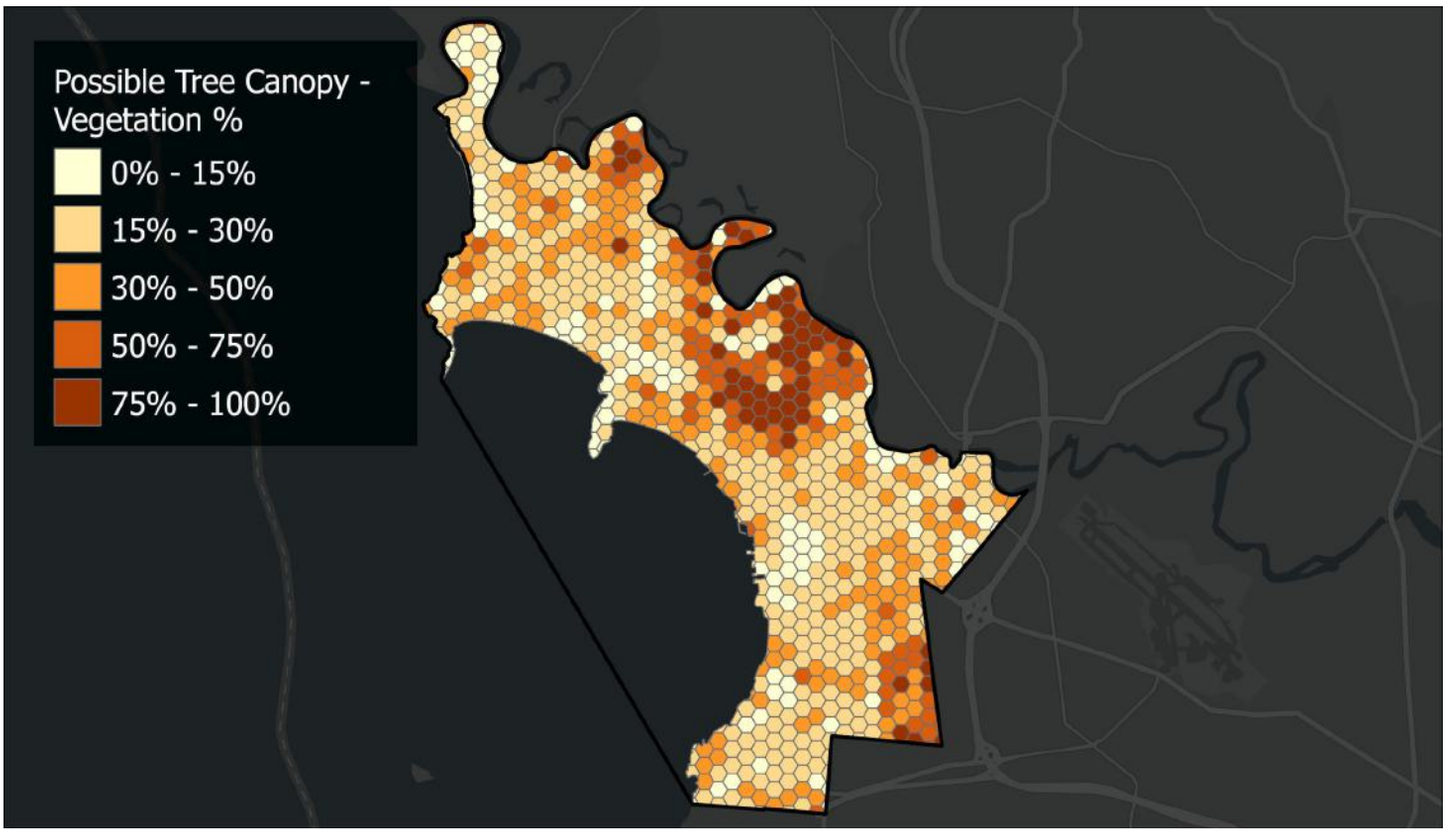


Figure 8. Possible Tree Canopy consisting of non-treed vegetated surfaces summarized by 10-acre hexagons. These vegetated surfaces that are not currently covered by tree canopy represent areas where it is biophysically feasible to establish new tree canopy. It may be financially challenging or socially undesirable to establish new tree canopy on much of this land. Examples include golf courses, recreational and agricultural fields. Maps of the Possible Tree Canopy can assist in strategic planning, but decisions on where to plant trees should be made based on field verification. Surface, underground, and above surface factors ranging from sidewalks to utilities can affect the suitability of a site for tree canopy planting.

Canopy Change Distribution — Absolute % Change

Burlington has experienced a net decrease in tree canopy over the 2014 to 2023 time period, but the story of change is more nuanced, with a mix of loss and gain. All areas of the city experienced both gains and losses of tree canopy, though some areas saw a net increase and others a net decrease. Removal and die off of mature trees resulted in the loss of large patches of tree canopy. Mature trees with large crowns contribute substantially to tree canopy and take decades to grow, so their loss creates large, localized declines in tree canopy. Even though there was evidence of tree loss throughout the Burlington, planting efforts, preservation programs, and natural growth helped offset losses and stem decline. Canopy begets canopy as almost all trees gain canopy on an annual basis. Trees, when properly cared for, can mitigate environmental risks challenges relating to the urban environment such as flooding, air quality, and urban heat island. This makes tree canopy an important part of a the city's infrastructure.

The trajectory of Burlington's tree canopy in the future is uncertain. There are both environmental and anthropogenic risks facing canopy cover. Invasive species could pose a serious threat if not identified and controlled early. Natural events such as storms can have a mixed impact on the canopy. In conserved areas, tree canopy will return through natural growth, but in urbanized areas, trees lost to storms will need to be replanted. Climate change may cause trees to grow more quickly but could also result in inhospitable conditions for native species. Anthropogenic factors include preservation and conservation efforts and the strength of tree ordinances. Managing these risks will be key to achieving sustained canopy growth.

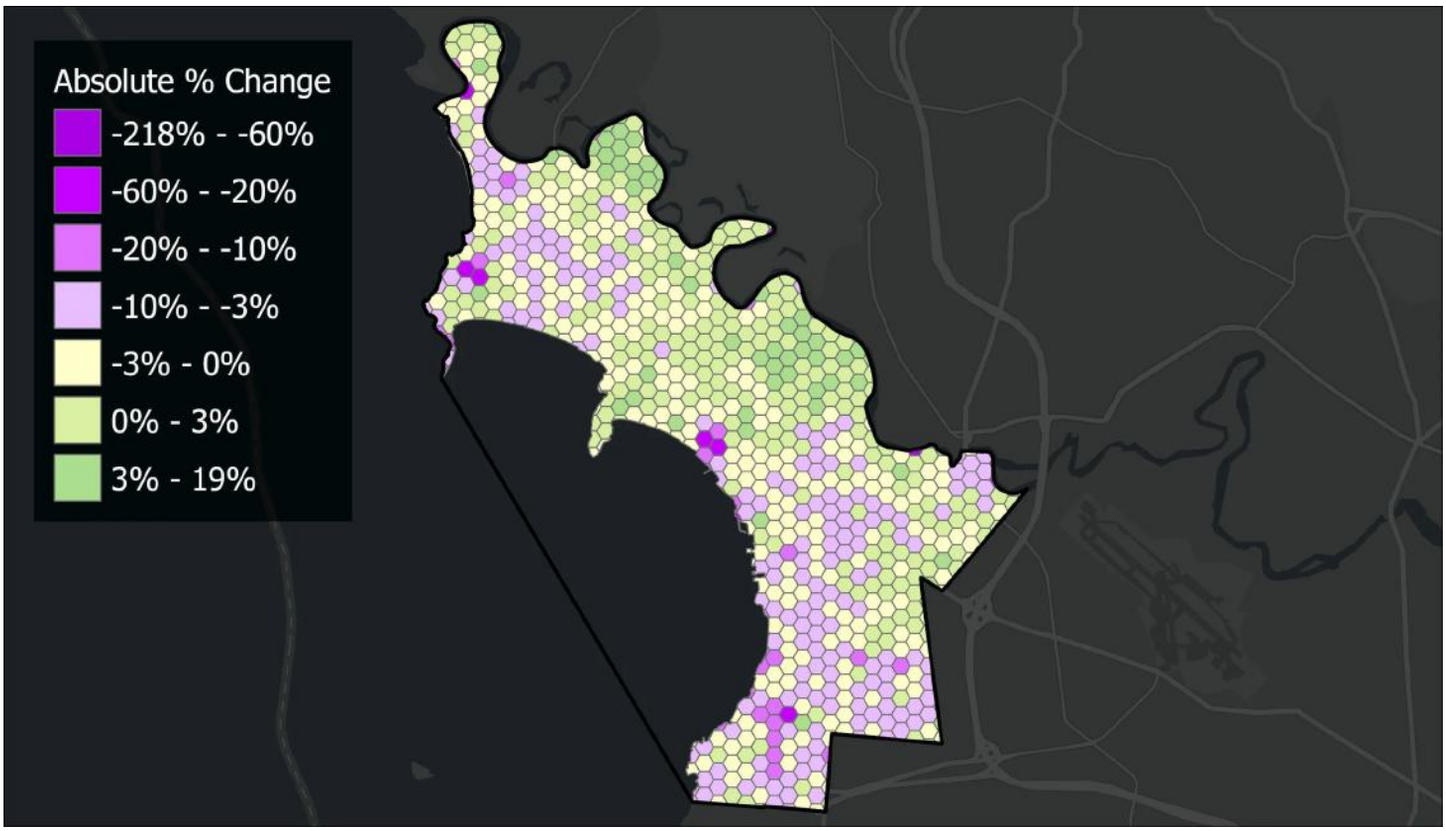


Figure 9: Tree canopy change summarized by 10-acre hexagons. Darker greens indicate greater gain, while darker purple reflects higher amounts of loss.

Canopy Change Distribution - Relative % Change

The magnitude of tree canopy change across Burlington can be measured by the relative tree canopy change over the 2014 - 2023 period. The relative change is calculated by taking the tree canopy area in 2014, subtracting the tree canopy area in 2023, then dividing this number by the area of tree canopy in 2014. Areas with the greatest change indicate that the canopy is markedly different in 2023 as compared to 2014. In some of the commercial and urbanized areas with little tree canopy in 2014, the growth of street trees resulted in a sizeable relative gain. Conversely, the removal of trees as a result of construction in sparsely treed areas resulted in substantial relative reductions in tree canopy.

The greatest relative gains in tree canopy were in locations where new plantings were carried out on areas with little tree canopy to begin with. Just as forest patches provide valuable ecosystem services, such as wildlife habitat, so do individual trees. In areas with low tree canopy, an individual tree can have an outsized impact, through ecosystem services such as providing a refuge from the sun while watching a baseball game, shading cars in a parking lot or helping to reduce homeowner air conditioning costs. Though growing conditions in Right of Way (ROW) areas can be tough, they are a tool to increase canopy in low coverage, often impervious surface dominated areas. Natural growth can provide gains in areas with robust canopy, but in areas with low canopy, such as commercial spaces, tree plantings are an important part a long-term plan to increase tree canopy and resulting ecosystem services.

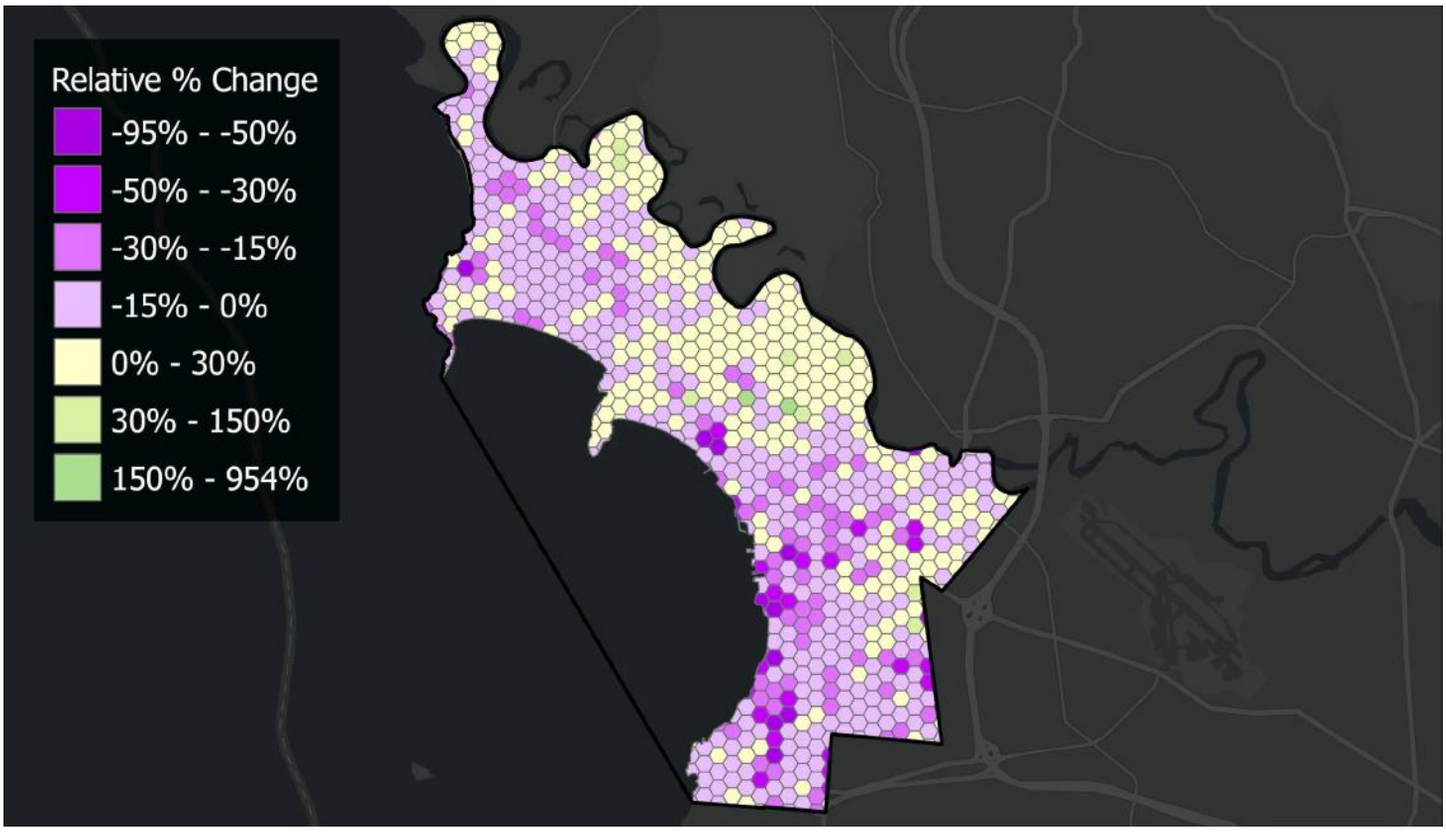


Figure 10: Tree canopy change metrics summarized by 10-acre hexagons. Relative tree canopy is calculated by using the formula (2014-2023)/2023. Colors are categorized by data quantiles. Darker greens indicate greater relative gain, while darker purple reflects a higher magnitude of loss.

Change Examples

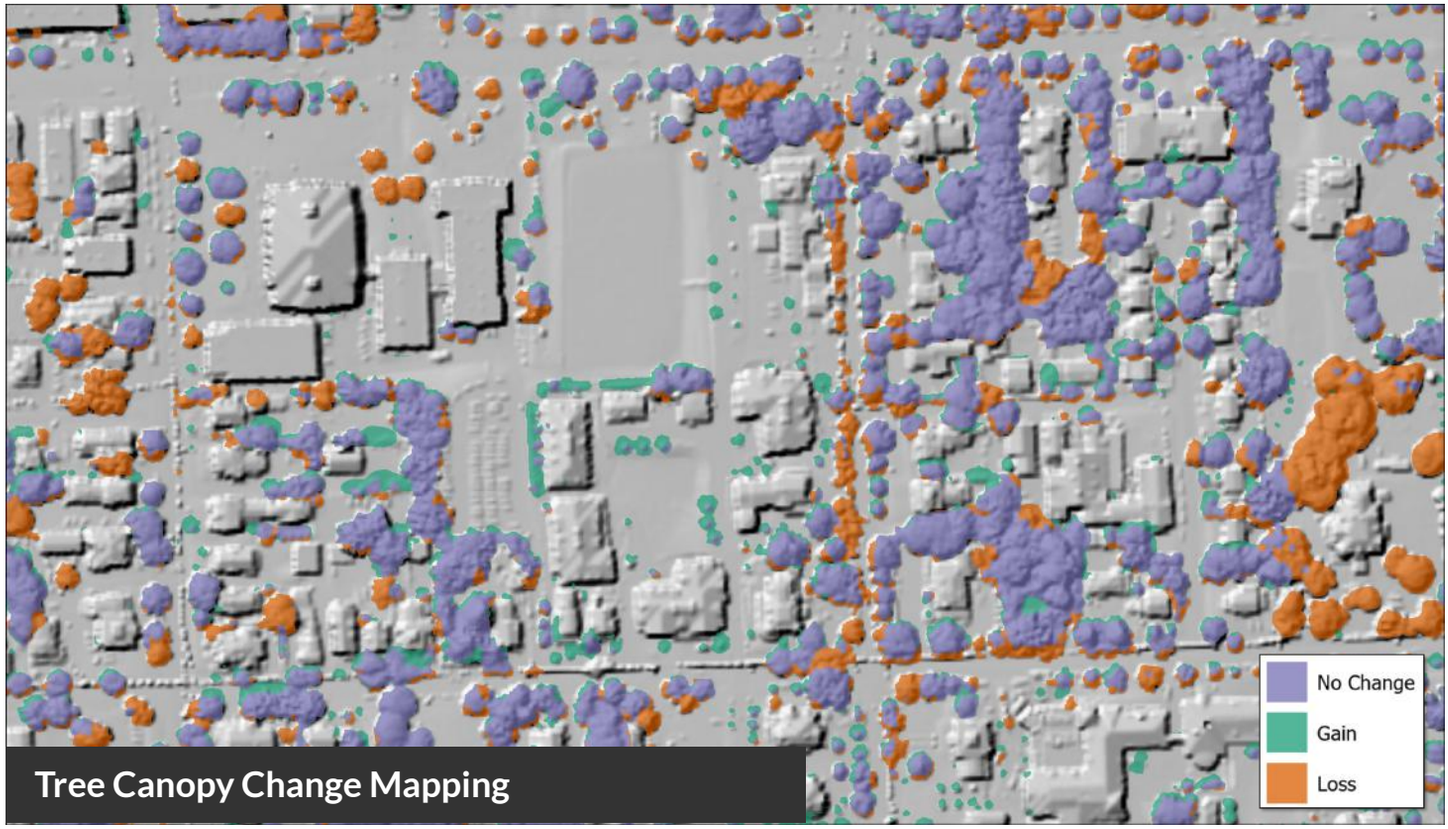


Figure 11: Tree canopy change mapping for the area surrounding S Willard St overlaid on 2014 LiDAR. This area experienced a mix of gain and loss.

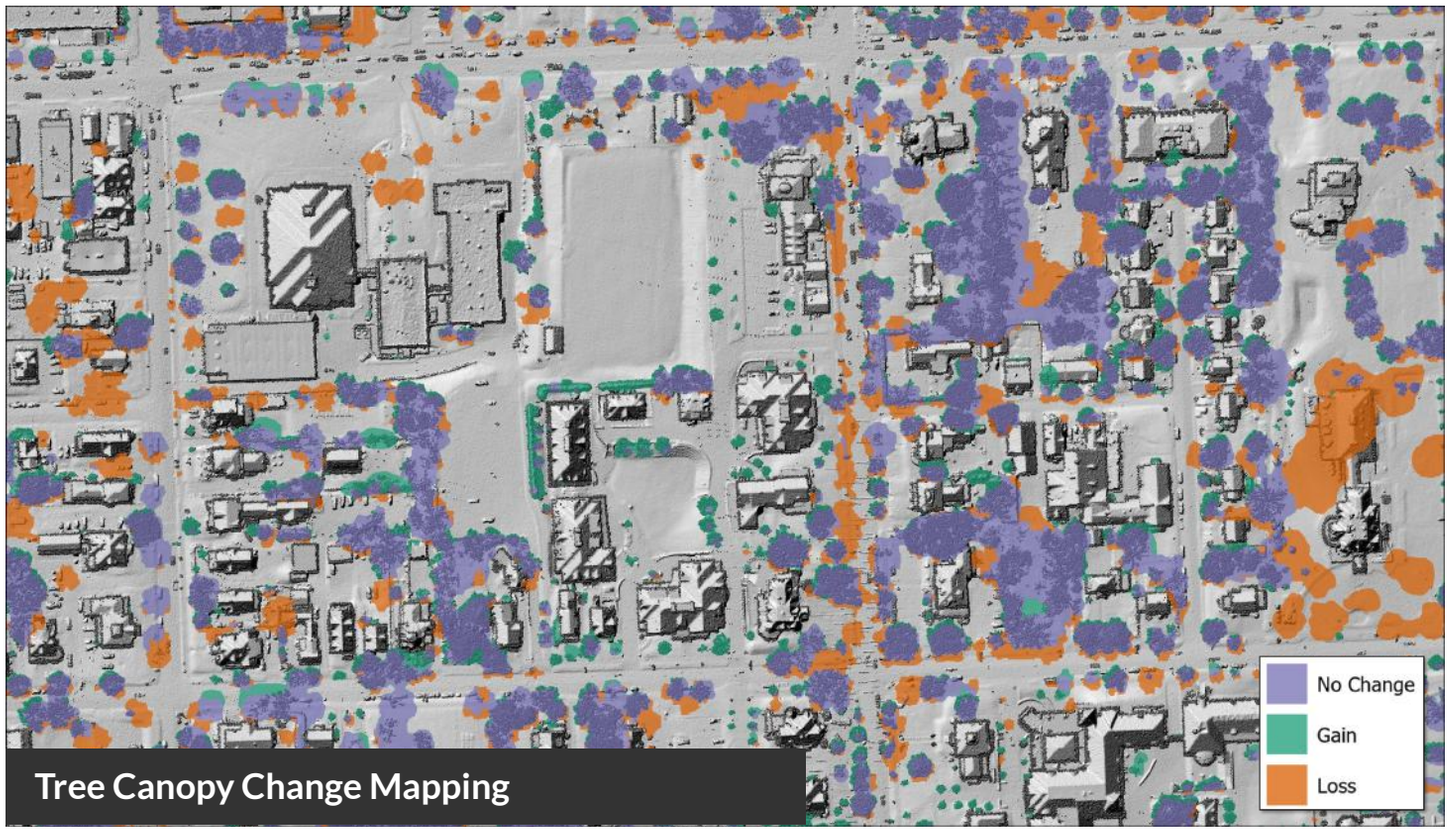


Figure 12: Tree canopy change for the same area above but overlaid on the 2023 LiDAR. The areas of gain appear rough now that tree canopy is present, and the areas of loss appear smooth due to the absence of tree canopy.

PATTERNS OF CHANGE

Numerous factors contribute to the wide range of tree canopy change patterns of Burlington. These include zoning, land use history, urban density, and landowner decisions. The examples that follow illustrate how these factors influence canopy change. Examining patterns and processes over the past decade can provide insights into how the canopy may change in the future.

Natural Succession Drives Growth

Growth of already existing canopy was the largest driver of Burlington's tree canopy gains. Tree planting and natural succession are slow but important processes for increasing urban tree canopy.

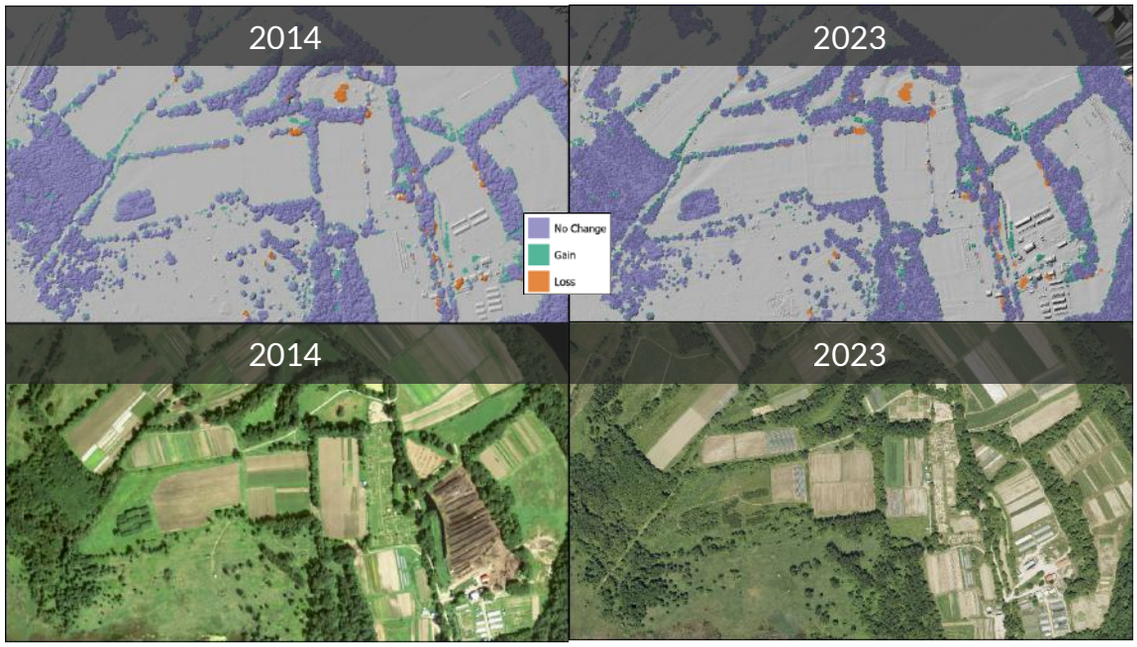


Figure 13. Natural growth in the Burlington Intervale created a net increase in tree canopy in the area.

Tree canopy gain

Agricultural Area

Natural Sucession

Natural Areas Provide Ecosystem Services

Forested areas provide important wildlife habitat, pollution mitigation, and outdoor recreation opportunites.

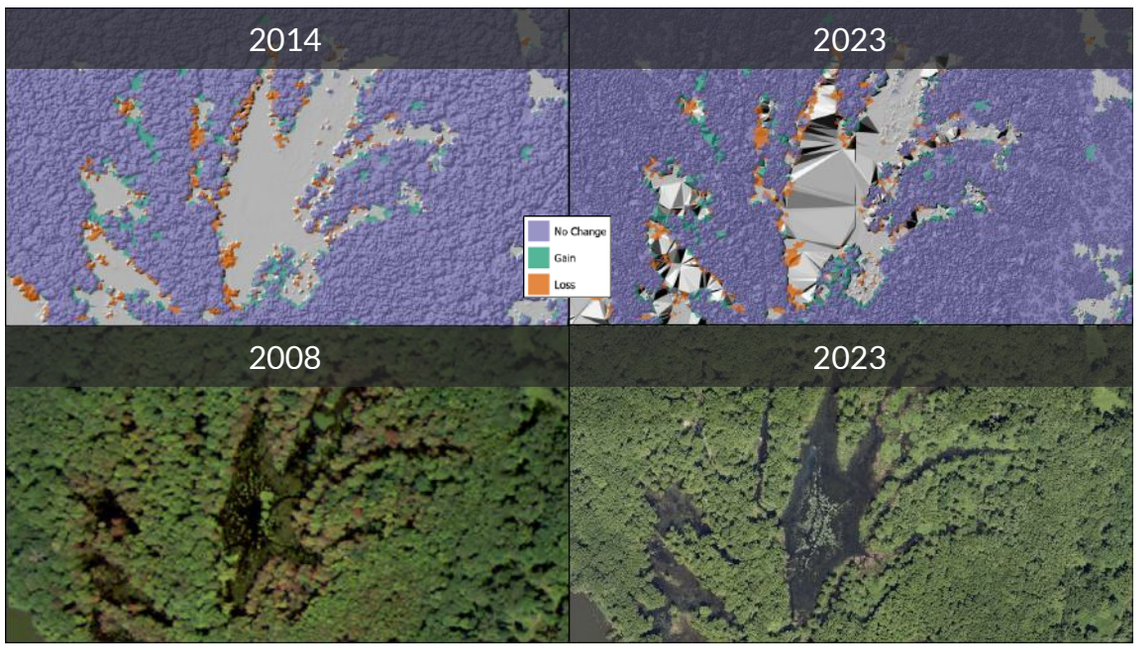


Figure 14. In the Derway Island Nature Preserve natural processes like storms result in downed branches and trees, which are quickly filled in with canopy from surrounding trees.

Stable Canopy

Protected Area

Wildlife Habitat

Residents are Key

Trees continue to grow and contribute canopy in established neighborhoods, but age, disease, invasive species, storms, and changing landowner preferences all contribute to removals. As a result, losses may outpace gains over time if replacement trees are not planted.

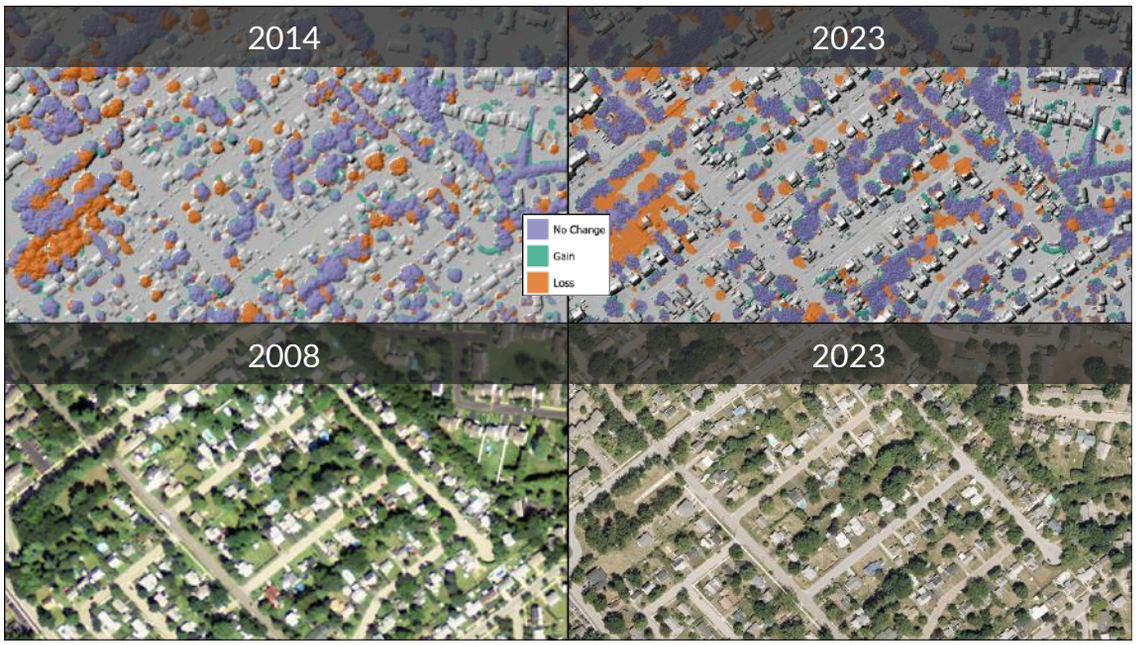


Figure 15. Natural growth of existing tree canopy helped to mitigate losses in this residential area off North Ave

Mix of Loss and Gains

Neighborhood

Widespread Tree Removal

Construction Associated with Tree Canopy Losses

Redevelopment is a natural part of a city's lifecycle and often needed to revitalize communities, create opportunities, and enhance quality of life for residents. But care should be taken to balance development needs with the essential ecosystem services that urban forest patches provide. Trees are often removed to provide space for new construction but new tree planting can help offset losses.

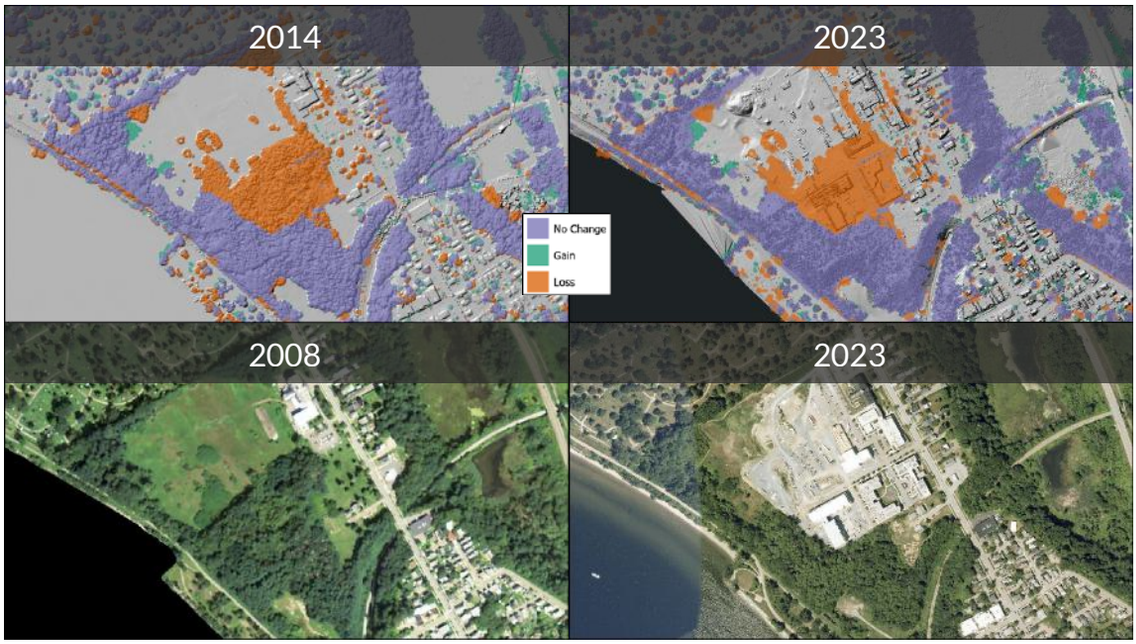


Figure 16. Construction for the redevelopment of the former Burlington College into housing, resulted in tree canopy loss.

Forest Patch Loss

Multi-Family Residential Area

New Construction

Wards

The city's official geographic boundaries are a useful way to summarize tree canopy and draw comparisons between parts of the city and allow communities to make informed decisions about their tree canopy. The differences in canopy between Burlington's wards is the result of land use history and changes to the built environment. Areas with large parks and open space or those that have lower density development tend to have more canopy, while areas that are more dense with commercial or industrial use tend to have less tree canopy. Ward 4 had the highest tree canopy coverage at 53% followed by Ward 1 at 47% and Ward 7 at 46% . Ward 3, which contains the downtown area, had the lowest tree canopy coverage at 17. Ward 7 had the largest area of tree canopy with 784 acres, representing 30% of the city's total tree canopy area. Each ward experienced both gain and loss of tree canopy within their boundaries, but overall losses outpaced gains in all but one of the city's wards. Only Ward 2, saw a net increase, gaining 6 acres of tree canopy between 2014 and 2023. Ward 5 saw the largest declines, losing 38 acres of tree canopy, followed by Ward 4 which lost 26 acres.

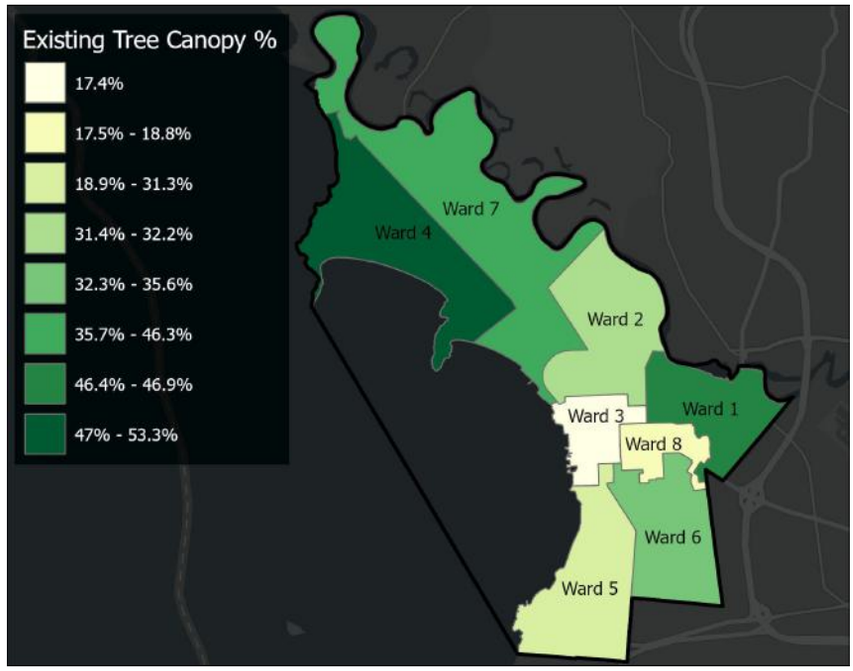


Figure 17: Existing tree canopy percentage for 2023 conditions summarized by Ward.

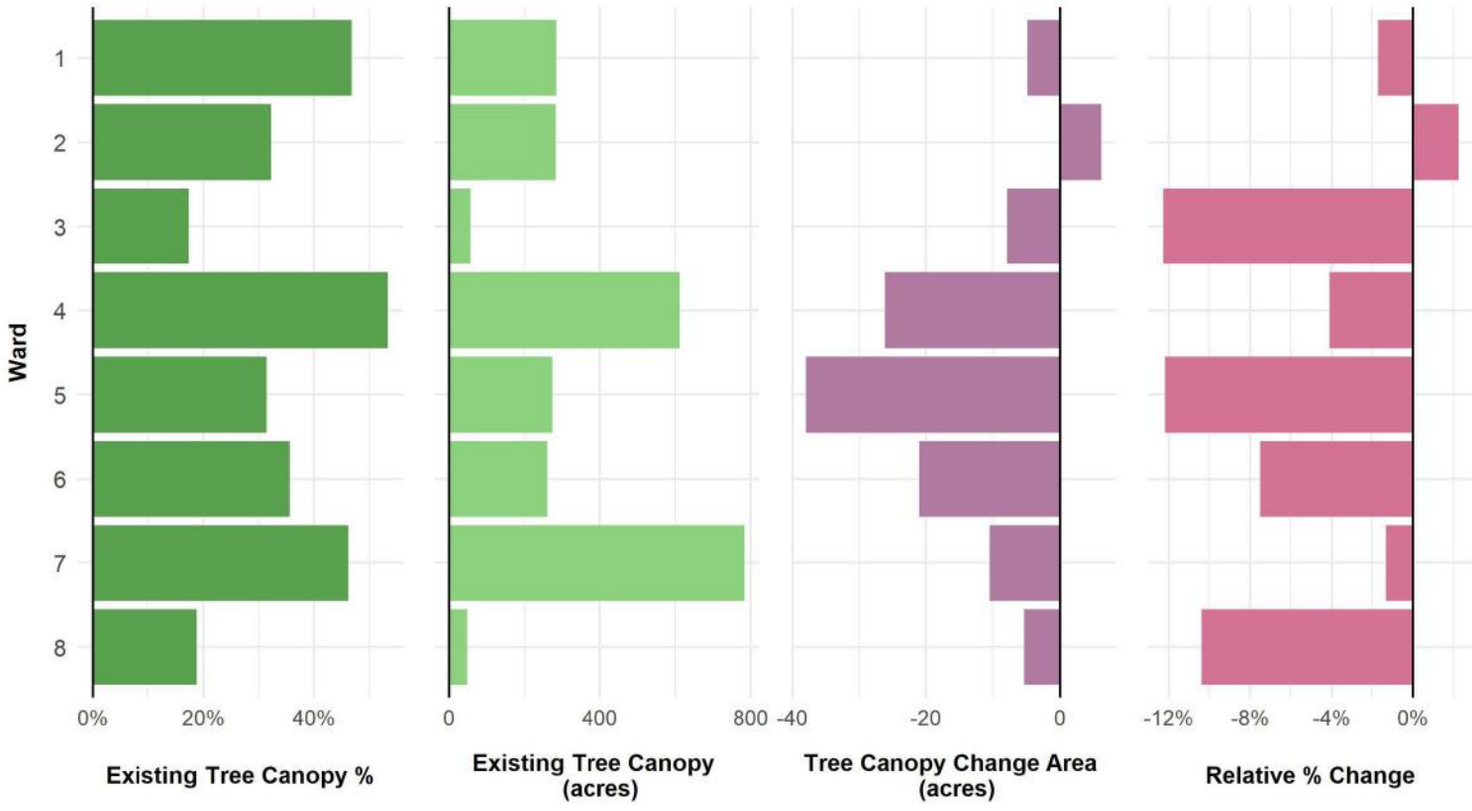


Figure 18: Tree canopy and change metrics summarized by Ward.

Parcel Land Use

Land use is how humans make use of the land including the economic and cultural activities (e.g., agricultural, residential, and commercial) practiced in the city. Land use is not to be mistaken by land cover which refers to landscape features, such as trees, buildings, water and other classes mapped as part of this study. Understanding the location and land-use types that tree canopy falls into is important information for coordination and planning purposes. Tree canopy cover was calculated in terms of percent of the land area within each district (Figure 20) to understand the proportion of canopy coverage for each, and as a percent of city-wide total tree canopy area (Figure 19) to determine contribution to Burlington's overall tree canopy.

The largest share (978 acres or 37.5%) of Burlington's tree canopy falls within residential parcels. Residential parcels also saw the largest decrease in tree canopy over the T1-T2 period with a net loss of 66.5 acres. The next largest share, 627 acres or 24% of the city's tree canopy exists on city property parcels. This land use saw the second largest losses with a decrease of 35 acres of tree canopy. The largest gains in tree canopy was seen on farmland parcels which saw a net increase of 9.7 acres of tree canopy.

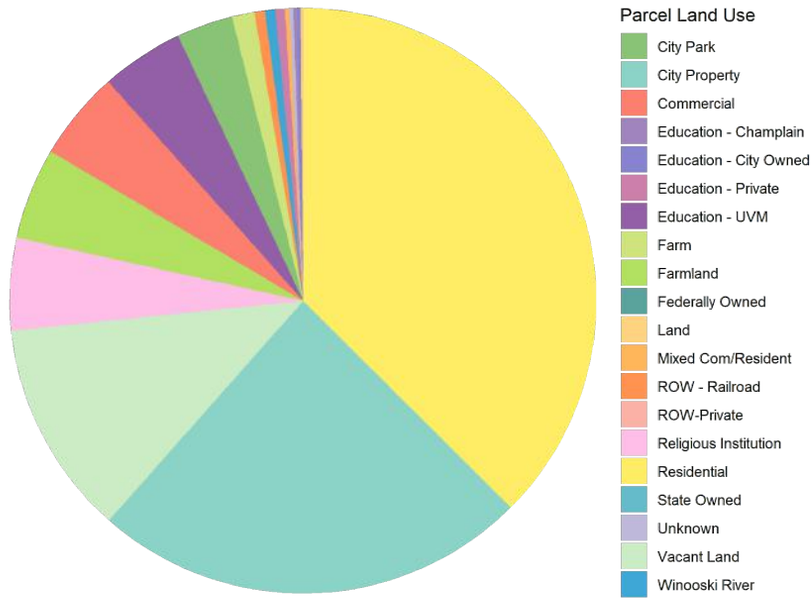


Figure 19: Burlington Tree Canopy Distribution by parcel land use.

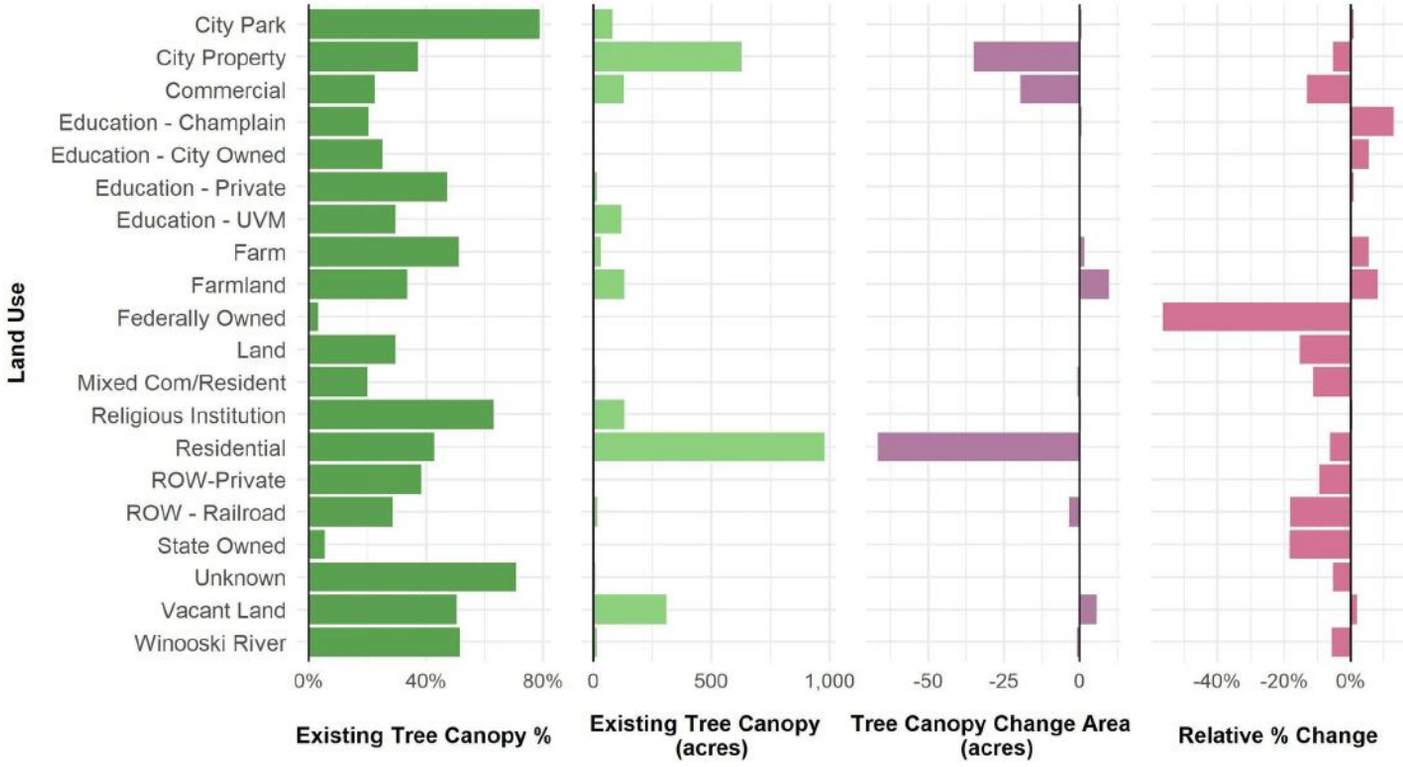


Figure 20: Tree canopy and change metrics summarized by parcel land use.

Watersheds

Watersheds represent areas in which water moves and drains in order to reach streams, lakes, and other waterbodies. Burlington's tree canopy is an important factor in managing the health of the city's three watersheds. The land use within a watershed can have large impacts on its health, including water quality and flood risk. Maintaining robust tree canopy can mitigate problems associated with impervious surfaces within a watershed by managing stormwater runoff, filtering pollution, and stabilizing the banks of streams and rivers. Existing tree canopy coverage within each watershed ranged from 37.5% in Burlington Direct Land Drainage, to 42% in the Tributaries to Lower Winooski watershed, to 50% in Shelburne Bay Direct Drainage. In the Burlington Direct Land Drainage watershed, 106 acres of tree canopy were lost between 2014 and 2023. The Shelburne Bay Direct Drainage watershed lost 12 acres, though this resulted in a higher magnitude of loss with a relative percent change of -8.3%. The Tributaries to Lower Winooski watershed is the only one to see a net increase in tree canopy, with an 11 acre increase over the 2014-2023 time period.

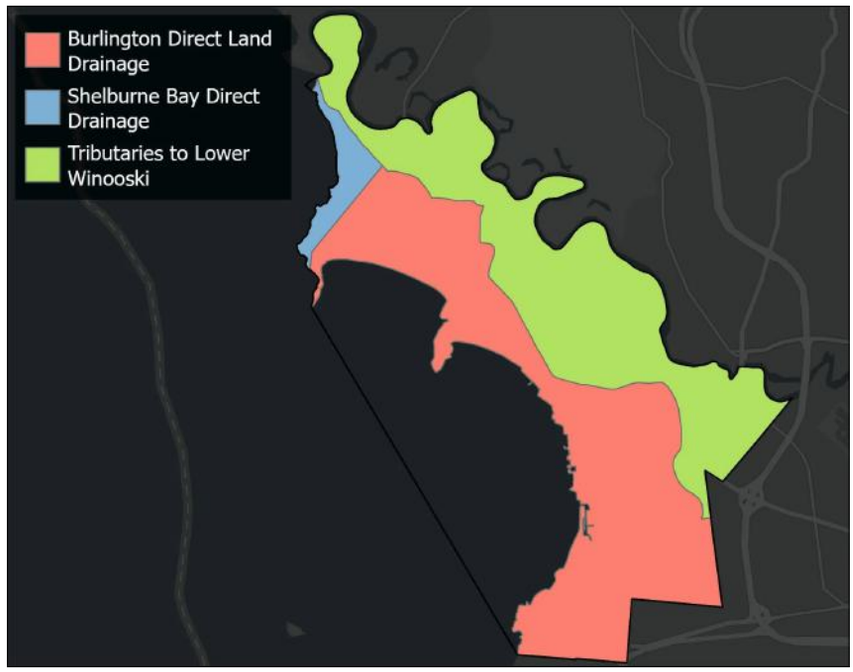


Figure 21: Burlington watersheds by which tree canopy metrics were summarized.

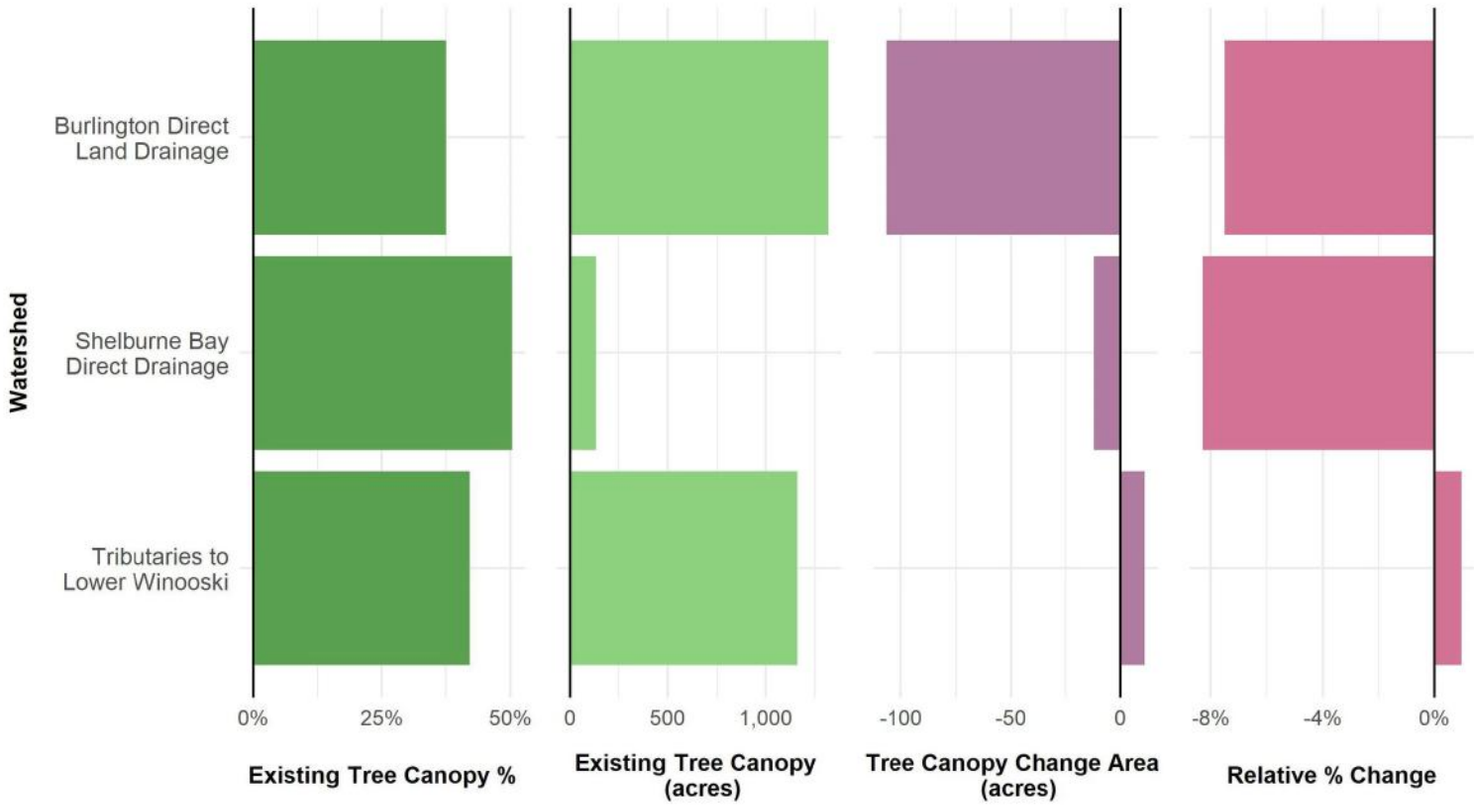


Figure 22: Tree canopy and change metrics summarized by watershed.

TREE HEIGHT DISTRIBUTION

Tree height is a useful proxy for tree age. Diverse height structure indicates a healthy and varied tree age distribution. Even-aged urban tree canopy results when trees were planted around the same time and can lead to a sudden and widespread loss in canopy when many mature trees reach the end of their lifespan at the same time. Age diversity supports a more resilient canopy over time, ensuring that that not all trees reach maturity at the same time.

In Burlington, the most prevalent height of trees is 40-50 feet, with the number of trees in each height class dropping dramatically as the height of trees increases past 60ft tall (Figure 23). There are few trees greater than 110ft tall, which can be expected in an urbanized area.

Mature trees have greater capacity to offer ecosystem services to urban residents. Loss of taller, more mature trees results in loss of those benefits and potential impacts to the overall canopy cover. It will be important to preserve trees in the 50-80 foot height range, while planting a variety of new trees to continue the lifecycle. Proper care and monitoring will help to develop the next generation of trees that reach maturity and balance the distribution. Having trees with a broad age distribution, as well as a variety of species, will ensure that a robust and healthy tree canopy is possible over time. Specific information on individual trees is collected via on-the-ground field inventories and was not captured in this assessment.

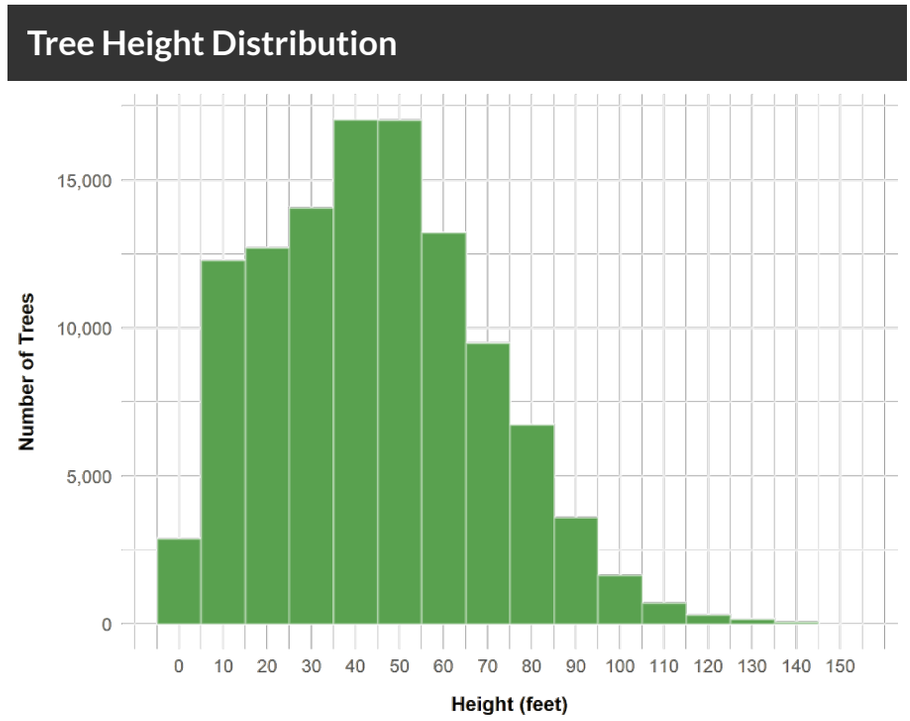


Figure 23: Histogram of the tree canopy height displaying the number of trees in each 10-foor bin.

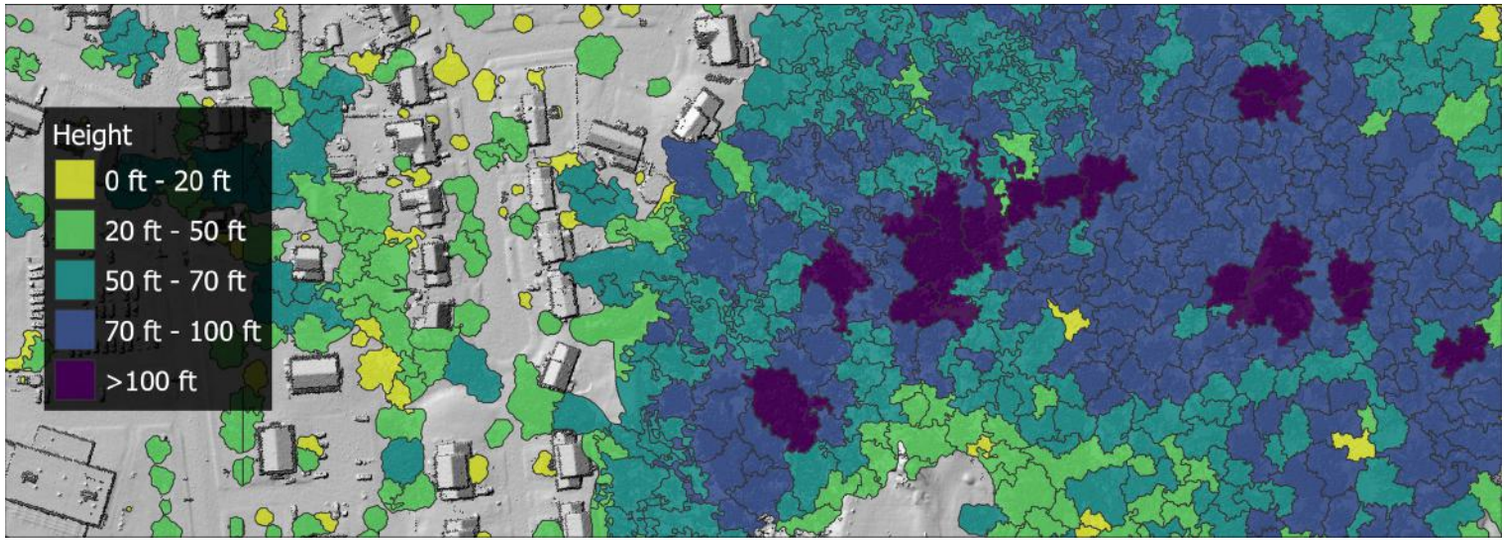


Figure 24: Example of the height classification with darker green representing taller canopy. Burlington's tree canopy was segmented into polygons approximating individual trees. Each of these polygons was then attributed with the height from the 2023 LiDAR.

FOREST PATCH SIZE

Along with the size, distribution, and diversity of urban forests, structure is another key factor to consider in management decisions. Urban forests are made up of patches of tree canopy interspersed throughout the landscape. This project used an algorithm to divide Burlington's tree canopy into five forest patch classes based on their morphology.

Forest patches, large and small, serve important roles in urban landscapes. Small patches and individual trees can provide access to natural areas and associated benefits in urban settings and can serve as stepping stones for wildlife traveling between larger forest patches. It is critical to maintain large patches of forest since they are necessary for certain ecosystem services that smaller patches cannot provide. In addition to producing outsized benefits like pollution mitigation and cooling, large forest patches can accommodate species with larger home ranges and species that rely on interior forest. This supports biodiversity by providing habitat for a wider variety of species than small patches alone can support.

Forest Patch Size Classes

Figure 25: Overview of Burlington forest patches by size (left). Example close-up of forest patch size classification (right). Forest patches are groups of trees surrounded by other, non-forested, land cover types.

Forest Patch Total Area

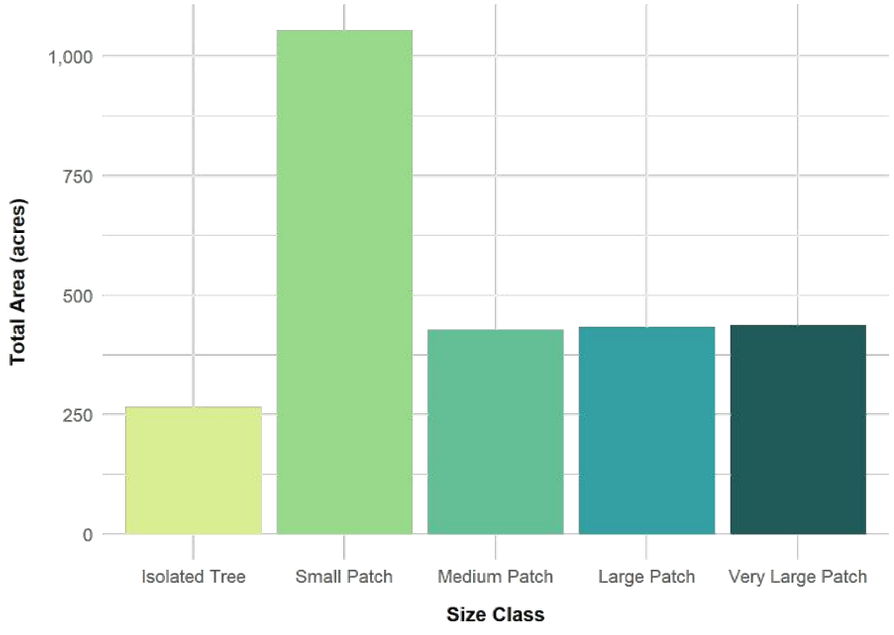
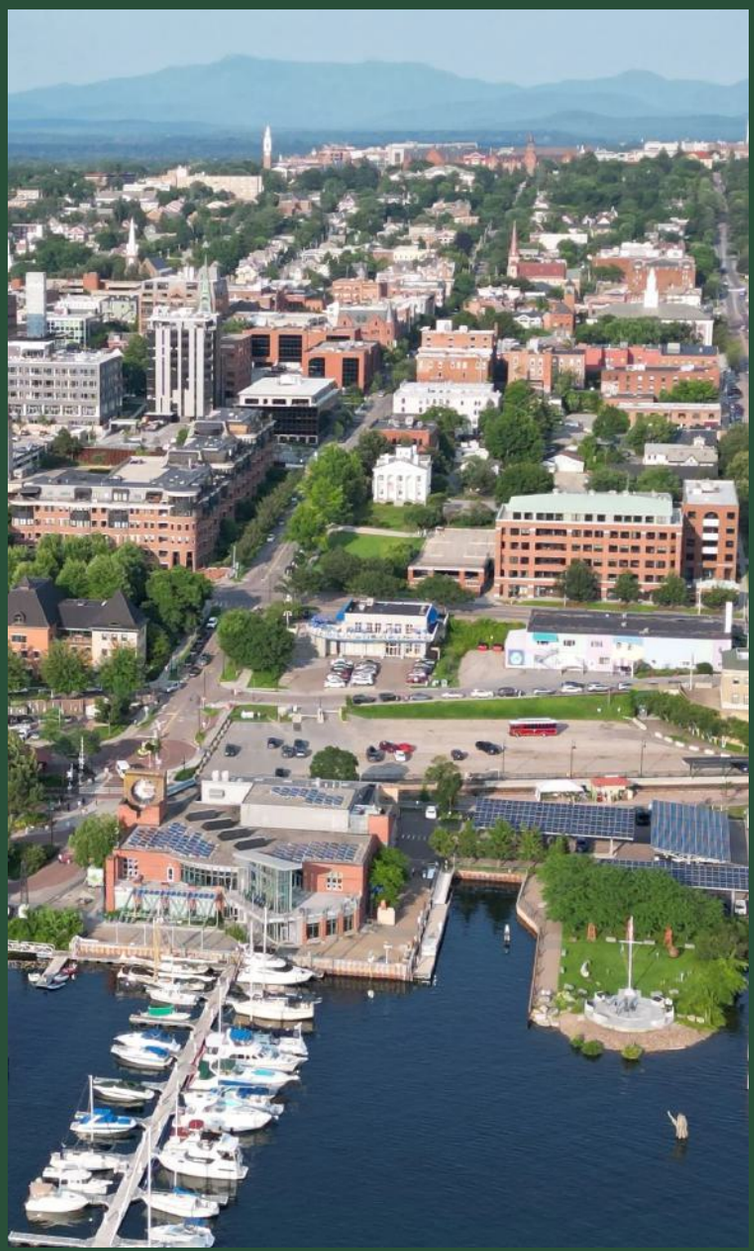


Figure 26: Total area of each forest patch size class.

The largest share of Burlington's tree canopy exists in small patches, with the total area of that size class adding up to 1,055 acres (Figure 26). Very large patches (438 acres), large patches (433 acres), and medium patch (427 acres) total areas were relatively consistent, though their locations in Burlington are concentrated in the northern portion of the city (Figure 25). Isolated trees made up the smallest total area of the five size categories covering a total of 266 acres throughout the city.

This assessment was carried out by the University of Vermont Spatial Analysis Lab in collaboration with Burlington, Vermont. The methods and tools used for this assessment were developed in partnership with the USDA Forest Service. The source data used for the mapping came from the City of Burlington, the State of Vermont, and the USDA. The project was funded by the City of Burlington Additional support for this project was provided by the Gund Institute for Environment at the University of Vermont. Computations were performed on the Vermont Advanced Computing Core supported in part by NSF award No. OAC-1827314.



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APPENDIX C:
Glossary of Key Terms

Glossary of Key Terms

Term	Definition
aggressive introduced species	A non-native species that spreads or reproduces rapidly, with detrimental effects on its environment, particulary at the expense of native species.
agroforestry	The intentional integration of trees and shrubs into crop and animal farming systems to create environmental, economic, and social benefits.
Comprehensive Plan	The City's primary land use plan that addresses topics such as housing, transportation, conservation, preservation, economic development, flood hazards, and energy. It is updated every 8 years as required by Vermont statute.
Conservation Legacy Fund	A dedicated fund created in 2004 following adoption of the original Open Space Protection Plan that provides financial support for conservation land acquisition, stewardship, and conservation education wthin the City of Burlington.
edge effect	Occurs where two differing habitat types meet, such as where yards or grassy fields and forests meet. While edges can be biodiverse because they include elements of both habitat types, there are often detrimental factors for the forest such as increased light, heat, pollution, predators and aggressive introduced species from the highly managed yard/field.
food forest	A diverse planting of edible plants that attempts to mimic the ecosystems and patterns found in nature.
foraging	The practice of collecting wild food, typically in natural areas, consisting of edible plants, fruit, mushrooms, and nuts.
green design standards	Guidelines for development that address both buildings and the land surrounding them that address things like resource conservation, energy and water efficiency, sustainability, connectivity and functionality of green spaces and the built environment, and environmental quality indoors and out.
green infrastructure	An adaptable term used to describe an array of practices, products, and technologies that use natural systems—or engineered sytems that mimic natural processes—to enhance overall environmental quality and provide utility services such as stormwater management, air pollution mitigation, carbon sequestration, and cooling to mitigate urban heat island effects.
greenbelt	The strip of vegetation, typically grass and street trees, between the street curb and sidewalk.

Term	Definition
grow not mow	Typically conversion of manicured green spaces, like lawns, to their natural state. It goes beyond simply not mowing and includes replacement of nonnative vegetation with native plant species. See also "rewild."
infill	Development on vacant or moderately developed land within an existing urban areas. It typically provides additional development density served by existing utilities and other infrastructure. Infill will be guided by green design standards as Burlington continues to grow its housing stock.
LiDAR	Stands for Light Detection and Ranging, LiDAR is a remote sensing technology that uses laser pulses from aircraft to measure ground characteristics like lawns, forests, water, pavement, and buildings.
native plant habitat	An area with vegetation consisting largely of plants and insects that are endemic to the area.
nature-based climate solutions (NBCS)	Tools and strategies that keep and grow out the capacity of natural systems to provide needed climate resilience through storm water absorption, urban cooling, carbon sequestration, flood mitagation and air filtration.
pocket forest	A small patch of woodland surrounded by built environment or unwooded green space.
pocket park	A small, ususally public, green space within an otherwise dense urban environment.
pollinator habitats	Areas of native plants and trees that provide resources for pollinators such as bees, butterflys and other pollinating insects.
rewild	The conversion of developed or manicured green space areas to its natural state, inclusive of native plants.
stewardship zone	Priority areas, typically around core natural areas, for providing information and other resources to landowners and residents to increase awareness about how their actions affect the natural function of nearby open spaces and support best practices on their property.
urban forest	The complete collection of wooded areas, small to large, across all property types (public, private, & institutional) in the city.
urban heat island	The phenomenon where urbanized areas experience higher temperatures than surrounding rural areas, particularly in summer. The phenomenon is caused by materials in the built environment (such as concrete, pavement, brick) and relative lack of vegetation.

APPENDIX D:
List of Partners

List of Partners

Abbreviation/Acronym	Organization
CEDO	Community and Economic Development Office
REIB	Racial Equity, Inclusion & Belonging
WVPD	Winooski Valley Park District
UVM	University of Vermont
VHCB	Vermont Housing & Conservation Board
CCRPC	Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
BHS	Burlington High School
NPA	Neighborhood Planning Assemblies
DPI	Department of Permitting and Inspections
WNRCD	Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District
VT DEC	Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
BLUE	Burlington's Residential Stormwater Management Program
VGN	Vermont Garden Network
ECHO	ECHO, Leahy Center for Lake Champlain
BCA	Burlington City Arts
BPRW	Burlington Parks, Recreation and Waterfront
BACG	Burlington Area Community Garden
AALV	Associations of Africans Living in Vermont
NFNA	New Farms for New Americans

APPENDIX E:
Implementation Matrices

CONSERVE Implementation Matrix

CS 1: Expand Restoration and Management City-wide							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CS 1.1	Develop restoration and management plans for core natural areas. Use existing management plans as templates and work with other organizations to ensure alignment across plans. Prioritize plans for ecological significance.	Conservation Board, Parks Conservation Team	Qualified ecologists	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CS 1.2	Inventory current initiatives and projects that support Nature Based Climate Solutions, identify gaps, and outline future initiatives/projects to close gaps.	Parks Conservation Team	Wildways, NBCS grantees, Water Resources	-	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 1.3	Adjust the City's green infrastructure definition to go beyond stormwater management and to include elements such as the urban forest, natural areas, wetlands, and green corridors.	Conservation Board	Water Resources, DPI, City Planning, NRCD, "Friends of" groups	-	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 1.4	Establish city- and community-wide values and methods for aggressive introduced species management. Communicate in the communications plan (See EX1.3).	Parks Conservation Team and Wildways	State of Vermont, Parks maintenance team, large landowners (e.g. Intervale)	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	EX 1.3
CS 1.5	Update Natural Resource Protection District Map for consistency with Open Space Plan's core natural areas.	City Planning/DPI	Conservation Board, Planning Commission	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CS 1.6	Continue to restore urban waterways like Potash, Centennial, Englesby Brooks (through partnerships, restoration activities, and regulations like buffer zones).	Parks Conservation Team	VT DEC, Water Resources, WVPD, BLUE Stormwater	-	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-
CS 1.7	*See also in CONNECT: CN2.3. Support "Friends Of" groups near natural areas (including supporting existing efforts and expanding to new groups) and target outreach within stewardship zones.*	-	-	-	-	-	-

CONSERVE Implementation Matrix

CS 2: Support Wildlife Movement and Ecological Health							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CS 2.1	Create network of pollinator-friendly and native plant habitats across the city.	Parks Conservation Team	Wildways, VGN, Grow Wild	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CS 2.2	Increase data collection on Burlington's Wildlife Corridors (e.g. species use, frequency of use, key environmental components) to incorporate in other City processes (e.g. zoning, neighborhood codes).	Parks Conservation Team	UVM, VT Fish and Wildlife, City Planning, DPI, Conservation Board	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CS 2.3	Continue to identify opportunities to improve large forest areas and improve habitat for songbirds and other indicator species.	Conservation Board	Parks Conservation Team	-	YES (ongoing)	Long-term (6+ years)	-
CS 2.4	Create an open-access dashboard tracking key indicators related to wildlife, water quality, and restoration with suggested ways to make progress.	City Planning (provide data), IT Department (set up dashboard) Parks, Communications (maintain dashboard)	City Planning (Data Analysts), Park Conservation Team, Parks Communications	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 3: Evolve the Conservation Legacy Fund to be flexible to changing needs							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CS 3.1	Increase the Conservation Legacy Fund.	DPI, Parks Conservation Team	Conservation Board, Parks Commission, City Council, Mayor's Office, Director of Financial Operations	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 3.2	Review the Conservation Legacy Fund and evaluate expanding the definition of potential fund uses to support conservation goals and values expressed in the Fund's inception (e.g. conservation infrastructure, education, green stormwater infrastructure, etc.).	DPI, Parks Conservation Team	Conservation Board, Parks Commission, City Council, Mayors Office, Director of Financial Operations)	YES	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 4: Collaborate to acquire land to protect open space for future generations							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CS 4.1	Review and update acquisition list and criteria.	Parks Conservation Team	City Planning, City Assessor	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CS 4.2	Adapt strategies for land acquisition for conservation for both public and private lands, reflecting the priorities of the new open space plan and upcoming comprehensive plan.	Parks Conservation Team	City Planning, City Assessor, Conservation Board, Parks Commission, DPI	YES	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-

CONNECT Implementation Matrix

CN 1: Grow and Celebrate Nature-Based Climate Solutions Across the City							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CN 1.1	Educate the public on Nature-Based Climate Solutions and their value. (See also EX1.3)	Parks Conservation Team	Conservation Board, Parks Commission, Wildways, Parks Communications	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 1.2	Create and support existing education, recognition, and incentive programs to encourage private property owners to integrate Nature Based Climate Solutions and implement sound ecological practices (e.g. reducing lawn space), especially within Natural Area Stewardship Zones. • Celebrate and support Grow Wild initiatives to encourage lawn conversions for native spaces to incrementally replace non-native for habitat benefits. • Use established pockets to disburse throughout neighborhoods. • Potential programs include adaptation of Green Design Standards, expansion of the BLUE program, and encouragement of "Wild Yards" to convert mowed areas to naturalized open space.	Parks Conservation Team	Conservation Board, Wildways, GROW wild, BLUE program, Parks Communications	YES	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CN 1.3	Continue to partner with schools to grow nature-based climate solutions on school grounds.	Burlington School District	Burlington Wildways, Parks Conservation Team, Shelburne Farms	-	YES (ongoing)	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 1.4	Create a municipal management plan to track and reduce mowed lawns.	Parks	Parks Ground Maintenance, Parks Conservation Team, Water Resources	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 1.5	Continue to grow nature-based climate solutions on City property, including but not limited to green stormwater infrastructure.	Parks	Water Resources	-	YES (ongoing)	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 1.6	*See also in CONSERVE: CS2.1. Create network of pollinator-friendly and native plant habitats across the city.*	-	-	-	-	-	-

CONNECT Implementation Matrix

CN 2: Cultivate an Ecosystem of Stewardship							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CN 2.1	Create a database and listserv of open space organizations to support collaboration, resource sharing, etc.	Parks Conservation Team	Wildways, Conservation Board	-	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 2.2	Co-host a recurring open space summit for land stewards, community organizations, and others.	Wildways, Mayor's Office	VCGN, Audubon, UVM, Wildways partners (e.g. Intervale, WVPD, Rock Point, Parks)	-	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 2.3	Continue to support "Friends Of" groups near natural areas (including supporting existing efforts and expanding to new groups) and target outreach within stewardship zones.	Parks Conservation Team	Parks Communications, WNRCD, Friends of the Winooski, Watersheds United Vermont, etc.	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CN 2.4	Update Urban Wilds definition, including considering expanding beyond city-owned land.	Conservation Board	Wildways, Large landowners, Parks Conservation Team, DPI	YES	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 2.5	Distribute educational resources about how personal actions can support water quality health in lake, river, and tributaries. (See also EX1.3)	Lake Champlain Sea Grant (BLUE program)	Water Resources, Parks Communications	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	EX 1.3

CONNECT Implementation Matrix

CN 3: Enhance and Protect Burlington's Urban Forest							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CN 3.1	Comprehensively update the Tree Ordinance.	Parks, City Arborist	Conservation Board, Parks Commission, City Arborist, Parks Conservation Team, Planning, Planning Commission, DPI	YES	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 3.2	Update the urban tree canopy goal and mapping/ data analysis every 10 years. Consider developing specific goals for different types of canopy based on their ecological and heat island mitigation value.	Parks, City Planning, Conservation Board	UVM Spatial Analysis, or similar provider	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-
CN 3.3	Conduct Pocket Forest Feasibility Study inclusive of existing and potential pocket parks that develops plant lists, identifies potential existing sites, and envisions incentives for establishing pocket forests in new developments, dense neighborhoods, and greenbelts.	Parks Conservation Team	Parks Planning, City Planning	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CN 3.4	Identify large valuable trees (e.g. specimen trees) in the city that are on public and private land, and consider protection with ideas framed in the policy toolkit from Biophilic Cities network.	Conservation Board	UVM Spatial Analysis Lab, City Arborist, Branch Out Burlington	-	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CN 3.5	Educate the public on benefits of the urban forest and how to manage it on private property. (See also CN1.1, CN1.2, EX1.3)	Parks Conservation Team	Conservation Board, Parks Commission, Wildways, Parks Communications	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	CN1.1, CN1.2, EX1.3

CN 4: Encourage New Development to Incorporate Nature-Based Principles							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CN 4.1	Develop Green Design Standards for new developments and redevelopments.	DPI, City Planning	Conservation Board, Planning Commission, Water Resources, land owners, landscape architects (?)	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CN 4.2	Provide educational resources for owners and occupants in Stewardship Zones to support ecological health of nearby natural areas.	Parks Conservation Team and Parks Communications	Grow Wild, Parks Planning, Lake Champlain Sea Grant	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CN 4.3	Create development review resources to support review bodies in evaluating sustainable/ecological nature-based approaches to development and open space impacts of new development.	DPI	Conservation Board, Parks Conservation Team	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-

EXPERIENCE Implementation Matrix

EX 1: Increase Awareness About Burlington's Open Spaces							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
EX 1.1	Collaborate to create and translate educational tools on Burlington's natural history and stewardship story with associated places to visit.	Parks Conservation Team	REIB, Crows Path, Master Naturalist, UVM, Shelburne Farms, ECHO, WVPD, Vermont Folklife, UVM Spatial Analysis, Generator	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
EX 1.2	Create a central calendar that crowdsources events and volunteer efforts around the City. (See also EX1.3)	Parks Communications (with LoveBurlington)	Wildways, Parks Conservation Team	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	EX 1.3
EX 1.3	Create a comprehensive open space communications and education plan to share recommendations of the open space plan. (See also EX1.2)	Parks Communications	City Planning, Park Planning, Wildways	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	EX 1.2

EX 2: Grow Public Access to Nature-Based Experiences							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
EX 2.1	Expand "everyday" nature experiences across the city that give community members opportunities to experience green/natural spaces as part of daily routines.	Parks Conservation Team, Parks Planning	DPW, Parks Communications, Neighborhoods/ individual landowners	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-
EX 2.2	Continue to partner to expand public access to nature experiences. Partnerships could include, for example, private and institutional landowners, organizations, and visionaries that promote nature-based work.	Parks	UVM, Rock Point, Intervale Center, other large landowners	-	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-

EXPERIENCE Implementation Matrix

EX 3: Break Down Barriers to Open Space Access							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
EX 3.1	Evaluate opportunities for universal access in natural areas where appropriate and considering ecological sensitivity. (See also EX3.3)	Parks Planning	BACA	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	EX 3.3
EX 3.2	Improve equitable transportation access to natural areas and seek out alternative funding mechanisms.	Parks Planning	DPW, CCRPC	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	
EX 3.3	Regularly engage communities who face barriers to accessing or enjoying open space to identify additional actions to increase use and where to prioritize improvements. (See also EX3.1)	Parks Planning, City Planning, REIB, BACA	Liberation Ecosystem, BPRW Conservation Team, Wildways, Trusted Community Voices	YES	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	EX 3.1
EX 3.4	Plan for and integrate different cultural preferences in the use of public outdoor spaces.	Parks Planning, City Planning, REIB	Liberation Ecosystem, BPRW Conservation Team, Wildways	YES	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
EX 3.5	Incorporate language access in educational campaigns.	Parks Communications, REIB	Trusted Community Voices	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-

CULTIVATE Implementation Matrix

CL 1: Cultivate Sustainable and Resilient Agriculture Practices							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CL 1.1	Continue to plan for resilient agriculture strategies in the Intervale as climate and flood risks increase.	Intervale Center	Farmers, UVM AgroEcology, Parks Conservation Team, VT Garden Network, CEDO (with NRCS)	YES	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CL 1.2	Develop and implement deer management strategies, and track progress.	Conservation Board	Parks Conservation Team, Intervale Center	-	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CL 1.3	Work with other agencies to educate and share resources on soil health information and remediation, aiming to create a resource similar to Dig Safe to emphasize safe soils for safe food.	NRCS, CEDO	NRCS, Conservation Districts, UVM Extension Service	-	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-
CL 1.4	Conduct a holistic inventory of available lands in City (both public and private) available for potential food production.	Parks Conservation Team	Innovation & Technology	YES	-	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CL 2: Expand Community Gardens							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CL 2.1	Partner with community and other groups to explore new spaces for community gardens and community agriculture (especially in areas with less vehicle access, higher percentage of low-income residents, and less access to grocery stores).	City Planning, Parks Conservation Team	Vermont Garden Network	-	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-
CL 2.2	Track garden plots per capita to establish baseline conditions and evaluate unmet demand. Set and track mid-term and long-term goals for community garden spaces.	Parks Conservation Team	Community gardeners, Vermont Garden Network	YES	YES	Near-term (0-2 years)	-
CL 2.3	Address the need for more community gardens with actions like: • Conduct city land asset study for community garden opportunities. • Document and review process for plot distribution • Proactively work with neighborhoods to identify potential community garden spaces and support with the Conservation Legacy Fund. • Encourage and direct expansion of capacity at existing sites with elements like new raised beds and support infrastructure. • Consider out-of-the-box opportunities, such as rooftop gardens, and innovative practices, such as vertical garden opportunities.	Parks Conservation Team	City Planning, DPI	YES	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CL 2.4	Incentivize creation of community gardens with new and redevelopment through green design standards.	DPI	City Planning, Parks Conservation Team	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	-

CULTIVATE Implementation Matrix

CL 3: Support the Cultivation of Alternate Food Sources							
No.	Action	Lead	Key Partners	High Priority	Quick Win	Implementation Timeframe	Related Actions
CL 3.1	Plan for food forests, including consideration of tree choices to allow for more community food production. (See also CL3.2)	Park Planning or Conservation Team	Parks Conservation Team	YES	-	Long-term (6+ years)	CL3.2
CL 3.2	Work with the public to facilitate responsible, safe, and sustainable foraging communities. (See also CL3.1)	Intervale Center	WVPD, Parks Communications and Conservation Teams, Rock Point, UVM	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	CL3.1
CL 3.3	Create an inventory of potential food forest spaces and conduct a feasibility study.	Parks Conservation Team, Intervale Center	Innovation & Technology	-	-	Mid-term (2-6 years)	-
CL 3.4	*See also in CS2.1 CONSERVE: Create network of pollinator-friendly and native plant gardens across the city.*	-	-	-	-	-	-

APPENDIX F:
Natural Communities Classification

Natural Communities Classification

Natural Community Group	Natural Community Types
Dry Red Oak-White Pine Forest	White Pine-Red Oak-Black Oak/White Pine NH Forest
	Mesic Maple Ash-Hickory/NH Limestone Forest Variant*
	Mesic Maple-Ash-Hickory-Oak Forest/Rich NH Forest
	Mesic Maple-Ash-Hickory-Oak/Rich NH Forest
	Mesic Maple-Ash-Hickory-Oak/Transition Hardwood Limestone
Mesic Pine-Oak Sandplain Forest	Hemlock NH/NH Forest*
	Hemlock-NH Forest/Hemlock-White Pine NH Forest
	Hemlock/Hemlock White Pine
	NH Forest/Mesic Maple-Ash-Hickory-Oak Forest
	NH Forest/Mesic Red Oak
	NH Forest/Rich NH Forest*
	Valley Clayplain/NH Forest
	Valley Clayplain*
Maple-Green Ash Swamp	Red Maple-Black Ash Swamp/Calcareous Red Maple-Tamarack Swamp*
	Red Maple-Black Ash Swamp/Lowland Spruce Fir Forest*
	Red Maple-Black Ash/Alder Swamp*
	Red Maple-Black Ash/Spruce-Fir-Tamarack
	Valley Clayplain/Red Maple-Black Ash
	Wet Clayplain Forest*
Silver Maple-Sensitive/Ostrich Fern Floodplain Forest	Silver Maple-Sensitive Fern/Alluvial Shrub Swamp
	Silver Maple-Sensitive Fern/River Mud Shore
	Silver Maple-Ostrich Fern
Alder Swamp	Alder Swamp/Sedge Meadow
Shallow Emergent/Cattail Marsh	Fresh Water Marsh
Water	Water
Disturbed Land (Not A Natural Community)	Borrow Pit
	Fill Land
	Gravel Pit
Soils & Landforms (Not A Natural Community)	Alluvial Land*
	Muck and Peat
	Terrace escarpments, silty and clayey*
	Limit of detailed soil survey

**under-represented natural communities in available data*

Board of Finance and City Council Submission Checklist

Department: Permitting & Inspections Submitter: Scott Gustin

Title/Subject: Open Space Plan

	Approval:	Meeting Date:
☐	Board of Finance	Click or tap to enter a date.
☒	City Council	12/15/2025
☐	Concurrent	Click or tap to enter a date.

This form must be completed by the person submitting the materials, and sent with the final submission. Please do not indicate that a signoff was received until it has actually been obtained.

Signoffs Received

Signoff Needed	Received	Date Received	Note
Department Head	Yes	12/4/2025	Bill Ward
Mayor's Office informed and approved memo	Yes	12/10/2025	Erin Jacobsen
Board/Commission, if required	Yes	11/13/2025	Planning Commission (Conservation & Parks previously)
City Attorney's Office has approved contract and/or legal documents, -Identify attorney in note	N/A	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
City Attorney's Office has approved memo and motion(s) or resolution(s) -Identify attorney in note	Yes	12/10/2025	Atty. Sturtevant
CAO has reviewed budget, financing, and memo	Yes	12/10/2025	Katherine Schad
Human Resources, if personnel action -Identify HR Manager in note	N/A	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
CIO, if an IT-related investment/purchase	N/A	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.

Materials Included

	Included?	Note
Final Memo Attached?	Yes	Memo
Contract Attached, if applicable?	N/A	Click or tap here to enter text.
Additional Materials, if necessary	Yes	Weblink to Plan and Appendix
Draft Resolution or Motion?	Yes	In the memo
If for submission to Council, are sponsors identified?	N/A	Click or tap here to enter text.

Office of Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
149 CHURCH STREET • BURLINGTON, VT 05401 • (802) 865-7272

MEMORANDUM

To: Burlington City Council
From: Erin Jacobsen, Chief of Staff
CC: Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak; Katherine Schad, CAO
Date: 12/15/2025
Re: Authorization to Execute a Grant to CVOEO to support Recovery Shelter

Request:

The Mayor respectfully requests that the City Council authorize the execution of a grant to CVOEO in the amount of $104,000 to help support a new Recovery Shelter in Burlington. These funds will be paid out of the City's FY26 Opioid Settlement monies.

Purpose:

CVOEO is receiving HOP Emergency Shelter Operation Funds and HOP Opioid Settlement Funds to provide 24/7 operations for a 12-bed recovery shelter. The Shelter facility is located at 184 Pearl Street, Burlington, VT. The 12 beds of emergency shelter are only for adults that meet the AHS/HUD Definition of Homelessness and who are seeking recovery from substance use. This will create a much-needed resource for people in recovery, and the extra capacity will also free up more CVOEO low barrier shelter beds.

Background:

The HOP funds for this shelter will only partially support the shelter with one case manager on each shift. Therefore, CVOEO reached out to the City to seek additional funding that would allow the Shelter to have an additional case manager in the evening to help people access permanent housing, employment, and essential services and to create a safer shelter environment.

In addition to the CVOEO staff, Howard Center will employ an onsite clinician to support therapeutic mental health and substance use services.

CVOEO hopes to open this new recovery shelter in February 2026.

Performance Measurements will include:

- At least 90% of homeless households entering the shelter meet with a case manager or program equivalent within 3 days of entrance.
- % of guests exiting the program to stable permanent or transitional housing, and the average length of stay.
- At least 90% of homeless households referred for case management meet with a case manager or program equivalent within 3 days of referral.
- Of those homeless households receiving case management:

- at least 70% subsequently attain employment **OR** are enrolled in an educational or training program OR qualify for cash or non-cash benefits (e.g., TANF, SSI, General Assistance, VA, 3SquarestVt, etc.) within 90 days of meeting with a case manager.
- at least 70% subsequently are stabilized in transitional or permanent housing **AND** of those housed, at least 70% continue to be stably housed for at least 90 days.

Action Requested from City Council

Authorize the Mayor to provide a grant to CVOEO in the sum of $104,000, to be paid out of the City's FY26 opioid settlement funds.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

To: Board of Finance
City Council

From: Shawn Burke, Interim Chief of Police
Shannon Trammell, Executive Manager

Date: December 15, 2025

Re: Burlington Police Department – Police Unified Pay Scale Adjustments

The Police Department is requesting an adjustment to the Police Unified Pay Scale (PUPS), which governs compensation for sworn (Class A) supervisory positions – Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Deputy Chief, as well as memorializing the compensation benefits afforded to the sworn supervisors moving forward.

Over time, contractual increases, in both pay and benefits, negotiated under the Burlington Police Officers Association (BPOA) have resulted in significant disparities between unionized officers and their supervisors. The current structure has created a situation where officers receive a better overall compensation package than those who choose to promote into leadership ranks as a Class A employee. This imbalance is negatively affecting morale, retention, and our ability to attract qualified candidates to promote to supervisory roles.

As BPOA pay scales have risen year over year, the percentage increase between the top step of the BPOA scale and the entry step of Sergeant has remained static. Currently, an officer promoted from BPOA Step 15 to Sergeant Step 1 receives only a 6% increase, for an enormous increase in responsibilities, duties, and liability, as a supervisor.

Beyond that narrow pay increase margin, newly promoted supervisors lose several benefits afforded to them under the BPOA contract – including things like Field Training Officer pay for training new supervisors, and retention pay. In some cases, this results in a net loss in overall compensation after promotion.

This structure discourages officers from pursuing supervisory positions. The department is now operating with critically low numbers of sworn supervisors, which impacts leadership capacity, accountability, and overall operational effectiveness.

In addition to the pay scale adjustments, we propose extending several of the BPOA benefits outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) to the sworn supervisory ranks to restore equity and competitiveness for those serving as formal leaders in the department.

Historical Context

When the PUPS was first implemented, Sergeants and Lieutenants retained many of the same benefits available under the BPOA contract, such as shift differential, holiday pay, and clothing/boot allowances. Deputy Chiefs also retained premium holiday pay and similar allowances. Over time, these benefits have been reduced or eliminated, or new benefits have been created for unionized officers during collective bargaining, creating a widening disparity between the BPOA and PUPS compensation structures.

In May 2018, then-Chief del Pozo adjusted Deputy Chief salaries to align more closely with Fire Administration and Operations Deputy Chiefs. This was intended as a temporary correction pending a broader review of the PUPS in FY19, which ultimately did not occur. Since then, pay compression has only worsened. By FY22, a Deputy Chief at Step 1 no longer earned an 8% increase over a Lieutenant at Step 4 — the original intent of the scale, outlined below. While Deputy Chiefs were returned to the PUPS in FY23 to address some compression, that change was limited in scope and did not resolve broader inequities in the pay structure for all sworn supervisory ranks.

Financial Impact

Supervisors play a critical role in maintaining professional standards, managing personnel, and ensuring operational success. When the compensation system disincentives' promotion, the department's leadership pipeline weakens.

To address this and encourage supervisory promotions, the department proposes the following Sworn Class A Supervisory Pay & Benefit Package:

Promotion Path	Current PUPS Increases	Proposed PUPS Increases
BPOA Step 15 → Sergeant	6% + 1.5% annually per step	12% + 1.5% annually per step
Sergeant → Lieutenant	6% + 1.5% annually per step	6% + 1.5% annually (no change)
Lieutenant → Deputy Chief	8% + 1.5% annually per step	10% + 1.5% annually per step

The proposed PUPS adjustments are based largely on an analysis of supervisory workload and responsibility. This analysis considered the scope of supervision, administrative burden, incident command expectations, after-hours responsibilities, operational workload, decision-making authority, and the level of accountability tied specifically to first-line leadership. This evaluation demonstrated that the jump in responsibility does not currently match the financial compensation tied to assuming supervisory duties. While the largest increase takes place upon promotion to the first supervisory rank of Sergeant, the ranks of Lieutenant and Deputy Chief are built off the Sergeant rank, where the increase flows up the ranks.

This proposed PUPS increase has a financial impact of $55,000 for FY26 (Jan. 2026 - Jun. 2026) and $108,000 for FY27. The Department intends to absorb the cost for the remainder of FY26 with salary attrition, and will be budgeted for in FY27. In order to avoid future salary compression, the PUPS scale must be the exclusive salary scale for the sworn supervisory positions in the department.

The benefits outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), which have historically been extended to non-union, sworn, Class A staff (leadership ranks) are:

- Retention Bonus (old provision)
- Shift Differential
- Travel / Training
- Court Call Back
- Training Scheduled Temporary Shift Changes
- Holiday Pay
- Vacation accruals
- Bereavement Leave
- Wellness Bonus
- Health Insurance (Employee's contribution rate matches BPOA)
- Pension Provision (Employee's contribution rate matches BPOA, based on date of hire)
- Miscellaneous Benefits (15-minute donning uniform time)
- Equipment allowance
- Clothing allowance
- Overtime – Sergeants and Lieutenants earn OT (Sergeants can earn comp or be paid out; Lieutenants are paid for OT)

The benefits listed above for all sworn positions have long been included in BPD's budgetary framework and require no additional funding adjustments. There are, however, four additional

benefits that are new to this CBA that the department would like to add to the list of benefits extended to the non-union, sworn, Class A staff, and those are:

- 10% of overtime toward pension benefits
- Retention bonus structure (new provision)
- FTO pay for Sergeants and/or Lieutenants to train new supervisors
- Pension buy-in option

Including these additional four benefits increases BPD's financial obligation by $35,000 per year. The department intends on covering this increase with salary attrition for the remainder of FY26.

The BPD has engaged the City Attorney's Office, the Human Resources Office, the Department of Finance and Administration, and the Mayor's Office in this critically important discussion.

These changes are necessary to maintain a healthy leadership structure within the Burlington Police Department and to ensure that our supervisors are appropriately compensated for the added responsibility and expectations of their roles.

Recommended Action

We respectfully request that the Board of Finance and City Council take the following actions:

Board of Finance:
Move to approve and recommend that the City Council adopt and authorize the proposed adjustments to the Police Unified Pay Scale, as outlined above, and to further authorize the extension of the benefits as outlined herein to all Class-A, sworn, non-union, supervisory personnel within the Burlington Police Department, as part of the comprehensive benefits package for such positions, subject to the final review and approval of the Chief Administrative Officer.

City Council:
Move to approve, adopt, and authorize the proposed adjustments to the Police Unified Pay Scale, as outlined above, and to further authorize the extension of the benefits as outlined herein to all Class-A, sworn, non-union, supervisory personnel within the Burlington Police Department, as part of the comprehensive benefits package for such positions, subject to the final review and approval of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Board of Finance and City Council Submission Checklist

Version: April 2025

Department: Police Submitter: Shawn Burke + Shannon Trammell

Title/Subject: Police Unified Pay Scale Adjustments

Approval Requested:		Meeting Date:
☐	Board of Finance	
☐	City Council	
☒	Both BOF and Council	12/15/2025

Instructions

1. This form must be completed by the person submitting the materials.
2. This form must be sent with the final submission of materials in advance of the meeting.
3. Do not indicate that a sign-off was received until it has actually been obtained.
4. Commission reports and presentations do not need to be reviewed by the CAO or Attorneys.
5. Name the reviewing Attorney or HR Manager in the Note column.

Signoff Needed	Received?	Approval Date	Note
Department Head	Yes	12/1/2025	S. Burke
Mayor's Office	Yes	12/4/2025	E. Jacobsen
Board/Commission	N/A		
City Attorney's Office for memo and contracts or legal documents	N/A		
City Attorney's Office for memo and motion(s) or resolution(s)	Yes	12/8/2025	H. McClenahan
CAO for budget, financing, and memo	Yes	12/9/2025	K. Schad
Human Resources, if personnel action or policy	Yes	12/10/2025	T. Clancy
CIO, if IT-related	N/A		

CITY OF BURLINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Chapin Spencer
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Julia Ursaki, PE, Public Works Transportation Engineer (DPW)
Laura Wheelock, PE, Division Director of Tech Services/City Engineer (DPW)

DATE: December 15, 2025

CC: Chapin Spencer, Director of Public Works

RE: Reconnecting Bank & Cherry Project Update

Request

To accept this report and place it in the file.

Introduction

Reconnecting Bank & Cherry is the next phase in the Great Streets reinvestment into our downtown. This project includes restoring the downtown grid by building new street segments of Saint Paul and Pine – reconnecting Bank to Cherry. The project incorporates Great Streets Design Standards along with best practices and community priorities. These improvements were first imagined under the City's comprehensive plan in 2011 and then advanced in 2016 when developers announced the redevelopment of the downtown mall.

The project includes: a curbless section of Cherry Street to promote walkability, community events, and easy commerce, green infrastructure to continue our tradition of protecting Lake Champlain, better lighting, more seating, additional bike parking, healthier trees, and more. Additional information can be found on the project website: https://greatstreetsbtv.com/gs-initiative/reconnecting-bank-cherry/

Funding Shortfall

Earlier this year, the project's design consultant provided updated Bank & Cherry project construction estimates totaling approximately $48 million. There is $31,395,000 available in grant funding for construction of this project, leaving a funding shortfall of approximately $16.6 million.

Table 1. Cost Estimate for All Streets

Bank Street	$	15,368,478.72
Saint Paul Street	$	1,319,974.66
Pine Street	$	1,254,543.36
Cherry Street	$	29,450,064.00
Other Costs	$	631,000.00
	$	48,024,060.74
	$	*(16,629,060.74)*

The project team has considered different options to close this shortfall. We applied for another RAISE/BUILD grant earlier this year but were not successful. We are also considering items for value engineering but determined that the full $16.6 million shortfall could not be made up with value engineering alone. While it is still possible to apply for other grant funding to help fill this gap, waiting for grant cycles does not give us enough time to meet our construction obligation deadline for the Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) of June 2026. The CDS grant is $15 million, specifically for Cherry Street.

In late October, the project team met with the Mayor and other city staff to discuss moving the Bank Street portion of this project into a different phase that is not funded with the CDS or RAISE/BUILD grant.

Proposed Phase One:

- 5 blocks of Cherry Street (Battery St to Winooski Ave)
- 1 block of St Paul Street (Bank St to Cherry St – new)
- 1 block of Pine Street (Bank St to Cherry St – new)

Proposed Phase Two:

- 3 Blocks of Bank Street (Pine St to Winooski Ave)

This would allow the city to use the grant funding that we have already been awarded to move forward with the project on Cherry Street and the new blocks of Pine Street and Saint Paul Street while we seek other grant funding for Bank Street. Removing Bank Street from this phase of the project, there is still a budget shortfall of approximately $1.2 million, which the project team feels confident we can close using value engineering and smaller grant opportunities.

Table 2. Cost Estimate without Bank Street

Saint Paul Street	$	1,319,974.66
Pine Street	$	1,254,543.36
Cherry Street	$	29,450,064.00
Other Costs	$	631,000.00
	$	32,655,582.02
	$	*(1,260,582.02)*

The project team is pursuing an amendment to our RAISE grant agreement to move Bank Street from the scope of our current grant funding into a new Phase which will separate it from the other streets. The proposed scope still meets the purpose and need of this project by reconnecting Bank Street and Cherry Street with the new blocks of Pine Street and Saint Paul Street. The City will still complete preliminary engineering and right-of-way for Bank Street under this grant so that it is a competitive "shovel ready" project for future funding opportunities. This proposed scope will still include isolated work on Bank Street to tie in the new Saint Paul Street and Pine Street.

Pursuing Bank Street construction in another phase of the project with separate funding has several benefits:

- It closes a budget shortfall identified in our preliminary plan estimates while still allowing the City to meet our grant obligation deadlines and reconstruct 7 of the 10 blocks included in the original project.
- It supports our local businesses by reducing the amount of construction happening downtown at once, which is a concern we have heard during our community engagement.
- The contractor's means and methods could result in work occurring at the same time on Bank Street and Cherry Street to meet the schedule of this grant. These are parallel corridors in our downtown and reconstructing both of them at the same time could cut off access to entire buildings and parcels in the downtown. Separating them into two phases ensures that the contractor will only work on one major street at a time.

There are a few downsides or risks with removing Bank Street from the project, including:

- Waterfront TIF – this project was described to the Vermont Economic Progress Council (VEPC) as including Bank Street. This scope change will need to be approved by VEPC via a substantial change.
- Utilities – the sewer main on Bank Street is in poor condition and in need to repair. There is a risk that there will be more sewer breaks on Bank Street before the corridor is reconstructed. The water main on Bank Street is also very old and only 6 inches, which does not meet the current fire protection standards. There are also risks of water main breaks on Bank Street before the corridor is reconstructed.
- Other aging assets – the pavement condition, bricks crossing the Church Street Marketplace, and sidewalk on some sections on Bank Street are in need of repair and will continue to age as we delay construction.

Limiting Construction Impacts Downtown

The project team also met with business owners on Bank Street and Cherry Street earlier this year. We discussed several options for construction phasing and traffic control to reduce impacts to downtown, including:

- Complete new blocks of Pine and St Paul first for more detour route options
- Leave one lane open on each street at all times
- Night work
- Winter construction shut down with isolated winter work as necessary
- Reopening street closures nights and weekends
- Isolated full street closures only when necessary

- Limit size of work area to ~400 feet (one block) and on one side of the street at a time

We also discussed other items needing coordination by the City during construction, including:

- GMT Schedules and Routes
- Providing parking opportunities in the project area
- Business hours of operation and access during construction
- Maintaining public building access
- Timing of private utility relocations
- Timing of Church Street Marketplace re-bricking

We have actively been discussing these strategies with our designers and will incorporate as many of them as possible into our traffic control plan and contract documents. Between these strategies and removing Bank Street from this phase of funding of the project, we will reduce the impacts of construction on our downtown.

The DPW project team provided a very similar project update to the Transportation, Energy & Utilities Committee on 11-25-25 including the proposed phasing of the project. The Committee took no formal action, but committee members expressed individual support for the phased approach.

Next Steps

The project team will progress plans for the entire project area through the right-of-way phase. We will return to the City Council seeking approval for a Waterfront TIF substantial change in the coming months. We expect to put the Cherry Street, St Paul Street, and Pine Street portion of the work out to bid in late 2026 and would seek Council authorization to award a construction contract in late 2026 or early 2027.

Motion

To accept this report and place it in the file.

Board of Finance and City Council Submission Checklist

Version: April 2025

Department: Public Works Submitter: Julia Ursaki

Title/Subject: Reconnecting Bank & Cherry Project Update

Approval Requested:		Meeting Date:
☐	Board of Finance	Click or tap to enter a date.
☒	City Council	12/15/2025
☐	Both BOF and Council	Click or tap to enter a date.

Instructions

1. This form must be completed by the person submitting the materials.
2. This form must be sent with the final submission of materials in advance of the meeting.
3. Do not indicate that a sign-off was received until it has actually been obtained.
4. Commission reports and presentations do not need to be reviewed by the CAO or Attorneys.
5. Name the reviewing Attorney or HR Manager in the Note column.

Signoff Needed	Received?	Approval Date	Note
Department Head	Yes	12/5/2025	Chapin Spencer
Mayor's Office	Yes	12/9/2025	Erin Jacobsen
Board/Commission	N/A	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
City Attorney's Office for memo and contracts or legal documents	Yes	Click or tap to enter a date.	Erik Ramakrishnan
City Attorney's Office for memo and motion(s) or resolution(s)	Yes	Click or tap to enter a date.	Erik Ramakrishnan
CAO for budget, financing, and memo	Yes	12/8/2025	Katherine Schad
Human Resources, if personnel action or policy	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
CIO, if IT-related	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.

CITY OF BURLINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

645 Pine St. Suite A
Burlington, VT 05401
802.865.7200 VOX
802.863.0466 FAX
802.863.0450 TTY

Chapin Spencer
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Finance, City Council

From: Chapin Spencer, Director of Public Works
Lee Perry, Division Director – Maintenance Division

CC: Colby Delaire, AFSCME President, Local 1343
Erin Jacobsen, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Katherine Schad, Chief Administrative Officer
Lynn Reagan, Human Resources Interim Director
Tony Berry, Human Resources Manager

Re: Recycling Program Update and Extension of Employee Recruitment and Retention Memorandum of Agreement between AFSCME Local 1343 and City of Burlington

Date: December 15, 2025

Request:
DPW Management requests the City Council approve a one-year extension of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

Background:
As has been discussed with the City Council previously, the municipally run recycling program has been operationally challenging – especially over the last five or so years. Issues have included persistent open positions, injuries, and inadequate funding. Many steps have been taken to address these issues including requiring use of wheeled toters, offering hiring bonuses, and substantially increasing the Solid Waste Generation Tax to get closer to a financially self-sufficient program. These actions have improved program financials, reduced workplace injuries, and modestly improved staffing (currently 2 out of 4 positions are filled).

After a number of briefings on the recycling program earlier this year, the City Council approved a motion on July 14, 2025, that directed the Department of Public Works (DPW) to both develop a fully-funded municipally-run recycling program budget and issue a request for price quotes (RFPQ) to inform a future decision on recycling operations. On July 15, DPW posted a RFPQ to the City website for the collection of Citywide residential recycling for both 3-year and 5-year contracts.

On August 18, 2025, DPW received one price quotation in response to the RFPQ. The respondent, Casella, submitted a price quote for a 5-year contract to collect Citywide recycling based off collecting up to 13,000 residential dwelling units (RDU's) for an amount of $129,567 per month ($1,554,804 annually). Casella chose not to bid on the 3-year contract option. As was discussed with the Council at the October 15, 2025 briefing, the one 5-year price quotation was more expensive than continuing with a municipally operated program.

In conversations with multiple haulers, the following reasons were provided as to why we did not get more bids or more competitive bids:

- The contract term was too short – Longer terms (7-10 years) are necessary to allow bidders to fully amortize the capital investment needed and startup costs to operate the service.
- The scope of work was relatively small – Bidding on just one waste stream (recycling) didn't fully capture the economy of scale that would be achieved with a fully consolidated collection system (recycling, trash, organics).
- The initiation window was too short – A lot goes into setting up a new service (hiring staff, purchasing vehicles, finalizing routes and policies) and there was only going to be ~3 months to initiate service by January 1, 2026.

Second Request For Price Quotes:

Based on hauler feedback, DPW posted a new RFPQ for a 7-year contract term on November 3, 2025. Notice of this new RFPQ was posted online and sent to all licensed solid waste haulers in the City. Again, one proposal was received by the November 14 deadline from Casella. Casella submitted a price quote for a 7-year contract to collect City wide recycling based off collecting up to 13,000 residential dwelling units (RDU's) for an amount of $90,133.33 per month ($1,081,600 annually). This 7-year price quote was much more competitive than the original 5-year price quote – approximately 30% less due to the second RFPQ addressing some of the issues bulleted above. Casella's 7-year annual price quotation with $270,000 tip fee cost added was $1,351,600.

Financial & Programmatic Analysis:

It is complicated to compare scenarios as Recycling program expenses are in various City budgets:

- Staff's benefit costs are in the DPW's Administration budget.
- Vehicle repairs and parts are in the DPW's Equipment Maintenance budget.
- Overhead is in other departments' budgets – Department of Finance & Administration, City Attorney, etc.
- Additionally, the "Recycling & Solid Waste" budget, Program 153, includes non-residential recycling costs including 201 Flynn debt service/operations and landfill maintenance.

All this said, we have run apples-to-apples scenarios for FY'27 (see attached) taking these items into account (Note that this is a hypothetical full-year comparison as any potential contracting arrangement wouldn't happen until halfway through FY'27 at the earliest).

Here are some general findings:

- Contracting out recycling is approximately $140K better for the General Fund once all direct and indirect expenses are taken into account ($1.69M vs. $1.83M).
- The Solid Waste Generation tax would need to increase:
    - 8-12% to achieve a fully funded municipally run operation.
    - 0-4% to achieve a full year of contracted operation.
- There are benefits of contracting recycling collection such as:
    - Giving Equipment Maintenance more space for billable work (BED, Water, Traffic vehicles) and reducing fleet size given over-burdened workgroup.
    - Reducing risk of Street Maintenance getting pulled away from their billable work stewarding other assets in order to cover recycling.

    - Reducing management time overseeing program (working to fully hire positions, respond to equipment failures, crashes, etc.) so that the DPW Director and Division Director of Maintenance have more time to support other City priorities.
    - Mitigating risks associated with additional fleet and employee injuries.
- There are also corresponding benefits to keeping recycling in-house, including:
    - Preserving and growing Union positions within City government that have historically served as a stepping stone to other municipal positions.
    - Having full management control of the recycling collection service.
    - Having Recycling contribute financially towards the General Fund's overhead costs.
    - Having more control to change operations to manage costs if there are large inflationary pressures or fuel price spikes.

In the attached spreadsheet, we have compared the budget implications of a full year of in-house recycling operations versus a full year of contracted operations. We've also summarized key differences of each option in the chart below:

CRITERIA	**Sustainable City-Run Recycling Option**	**Contract Out Recycling Option**
Control	Direct control	Control through contract
Cost	$1.83M/year (8-13% increase in SWGT in FY'27)	$1.69M/year (~$140K less and 0-4% increase in SWGT in FY'27)
Jobs	Total of 5 AFSCME positions + 1 manager (2 new FTEs beyond FY'26 budget)	Overseen by existing Division Director (Reduces 4 Union Recycling positions with two currently filled Recycling staff transferred to Streets, etc.)
Equipment Maintenance Capacity	Buy two new recycling trucks and maintain current fleet. No inroads into fixing over-burdened fleet team.	Sell 4 existing recycling vehicles. More billable work for Equipment Maintenance team. A step towards addressing fleet over-burden with fewer vehicles.
Street Maintenance Capacity	Reduced risk of Street Maintenance getting pulled into recycling operations	Eliminate risk of Street Maintenance getting pulled into recycling operations
City Overhead	Recycling budget would cover $90K of City's GF operations	Recycling would not likely cover a portion of City's GF operations
Management Capacity	Ongoing city-run Recycling program operations will continue to take management capacity.	Initial effort to contract and communicate with public will take significant time, but there should be less management need over subsequent years providing more capacity for other priorities.

Management capacity is an important consideration. There are many large policy and programmatic priorities that either need to be addressed due to our asset management responsibilities or are priorities for the Administration / Council / Commission. Each of them will require significant management engagement in the coming years:

- <u>Asset Management / Operational Needs</u>
    - Finance, structure and oversee generational upgrade of the City's Wastewater plants that have not been comprehensively upgraded in over 30 years.

    - Scope, finance, structure and oversee generational upgrade to the City's Water plant that has not been comprehensively upgraded in over 40 years.
    - Work with Council, Commission and the public to determine how to more sustainably fund and maintain existing streets, sidewalks, bike facilities, and amenities in the public ROW generally.
    - Work with stakeholders to determine how to better fund and steward the higher level of fit and finish of downtown's Great Streets.
    - Address the decades-long issue of unaccepted streets.
    - Modernize and unify the City's soil management facilities.
- Additional Non-Operational Priorities from Stakeholders
    - Assess, design, fund and execute targeted expansions of City infrastructure to accommodate ambitious housing plans (e.g. Pine St sewer force main for South End development).
    - Complete a comprehensive update of the City's transportation plan.
    - Install additional solar on DPW assets (reviewing landfill, reservoir, Rt 127, etc.).
    - Increase financial and programmatic capacity to expedite implementation of planBTV Walk/Bike.
    - Consider implementation of a consolidated collection solid waste system.
    - Increase capacity of the City's traffic calming program.

DPW doesn't have capacity to have these all be priorities. Additionally, the more operational programs we operate day-to-day, the less management capacity we have to tackle these policy and programmatic priorities.

DPW leadership needs clear direction as the longer the future direction of recycling collection is debated, the longer we are managing an interim condition that leaves a number of Recycling and Street Maintenance positions open so as to accommodate a potential contracting out scenario where we'd need to transfer the remaining Recycling employees into open Street Maintenance positions in order to avoid layoffs. This interim condition with open positions doesn't prepare us well for the winter maintenance season where we need every position filled and ready to plow.

Recommendations:

DPW Commission Input: I presented a similar memo and spreadsheet to the DPW Commission at their 11-19-25 meeting, but did not include a Director recommendation. The Commission voted 6-1 to recommend pursuing the contract option. Those voting for the contract option expressed a desire for DPW management to have more time to advance the Commission's programmatic and policy interests and also expressed a desire to better protect Street Maintenance and Equipment Maintenance from the operational burdens of the Recycling program. The Commissioner voting against was supportive of the City run option that increases Union positions, and the Commissioner saw City-run recycling as a better path to potential future consolidated collection.

Director Recommendation: Based on work to-date and my analysis below, it is my recommendation that the City is best served by negotiating a 7-year contract with the sole bidder Casella. My main reasons are as follows:

- There is a strong interest from the Administration, Council, the Commission and the public to have DPW be able to tackle the policy and program challenges of today and the future. The broader and more complex our daily operational duties are, the more management's time is taken up by these services.

- There remains a structural General Fund budget gap driven in significant part due to labor and benefit costs growing far faster than revenues. Adding two additional FTEs to attain a sustainable municipally run Recycling program puts further long-term pressure on the General Fund's operating budget.

All this said, I understand that there has been strong Council support for keeping municipal operation of the City's Recycling program. I have discussed both options (in-house operations and contracted operations) with other DPW leadership and AFSCME leadership and it is my understanding that both parties are willing to go with either option based on the Council's direction.

Transportation, Energy & Utilities Committee (TEUC) Recommendation: At the 11-29-25 meeting, the Committee reviewed a similar memo that also included my recommendation. After a good discussion, the TEUC voted 2-1 to recommend continuing with the in-house operation. The two Councilors voting in the affirmative spoke of the greater oversight with a City-staffed operation and that the financial savings between the two options were small. The dissenting Councilor spoke of the need to save money, focus on key municipal priorities, and that we'd still have significant control over a contracted service.

Now it is time for City Council to provide direction. Short-term options include:

- Request staff to draft up a 7-year contract based on Casella's 11-14-25 price quote.
- Direct DPW Management to continue with a City-staffed operation for some defined period.
- Do nothing in the short term which will have the effect of continuing the City-staffed operation.

If the Council decides to do nothing in the short term, it could then revisit the issue during the FY'27 budget process. That said, there are two significant considerations to weigh in taking this path:

- DPW Management has been trying to maintain a delicate balance of keeping open the same number of Street Maintenance positions as there are filled Recycling positions so that if the Council wanted to pursue the contracted route, all existing Recycling staff could be shifted into other equally graded positions within the City. As we head into the depths of the winter maintenance season, absent a clear Recycling direction from Council, DPW Management will be working to fill all regular positions to get us through the long hours of the winter maintenance season.
- The latest Casella price quote is good for 60 days, or until 1-13-25. The budget process will extend well beyond this window so any decision to negotiate with Casella later during the budget process may not achieve the same terms Casella provided in their price quote.

Regardless of which option the Council takes, the City will still be operating the Recycling program through at least December 31, 2026. Given this, DPW Management is strongly recommending to extend the AFSCME-City MOA through 12-31-26. We have discussed this extension with Union leadership, and they are in concurrence.

Background Employee Retention and Recruitment Memorandum of Agreement:

In May 2025 Department of Public Works (DPW) management worked in collaboration with AFSCME leadership to draft a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) outlining the premiums and protocols listed below and the recruitment and retention strategies for both Recycling and Street Maintenance programs. The MOA has been effective during this interim period. The current MOA is set to expire on December 31, 2025. DPW Management, and AFSCME leadership would like to extend the current MOA with updated language (see attachment) through December 31, 2026.

Funding for recruitment and retention strategies (~$39,600 for the past calendar year) were accommodated in the FY'25 and FY'26 budgets due to the savings from current vacancies. The estimated amount of funding needed for FY'27 budget is ~$16,700. This is based off of current open positions in recycling, staff needed to "fill in" to minimally staff the program (3 drivers) for premiums, and the number of open positions currently in Recycling and Street Maintenance for hiring and referral bonuses. DPW Management will include this expense in the FY'27 budget.

Strategies to Strengthen Staff Recruitment & Retention:

We instituted the following steps earlier this year:

- Raised wage for seasonal Recycling Worker to $30/hour, up from a recent wage increase of $28/hour, up from $25/hour previously (Implemented and posted)
- Providing a $4/hour premium, that was retroactive to April 22, 2025 (when Management, and AFSCME met with the Street Maintenance and Recycling teams about this proposal) to any full-time Existing Recycling and Street Maintenance employee with CDL who drives and collects recycling. Premiums were not offered to new hires that received a hiring bonus
- Offering $2,000 recruitment bonuses and $500 referral bonuses to assist the division with filling vacant positions.
- Instituting the following scheduling order for Recycling if more workers are needed beyond the Recycling Workers:
    - Ask for volunteers from Street Maintenance
    - If more workers are needed with more than 24-hour notice, ask other DPW CDL drivers to volunteer to work after 3pm as overtime
    - If more workers are needed, assign Street Maintenance employees to do the work on a rotating basis

Since instituting these strategies, DPW has hired two (2) full-time Recycling drivers and have two (2) open positions. In Street Maintenance, we have hired four (4) Right of Way Field Technician I and currently have two (2) open positions. Hiring bonuses are provided quarterly starting after completion of employees 90-day probationary period. Street Maintenance staff have been covering open recycling positions on a voluntary basis and Management has not had to institute any of the other scheduling scenarios listed above.

Board of Finance Motion

- Approve and recommend that the City Council authorize the DPW Director to extend the DPW Employee Retention and Recruitment Memorandum of Agreement between AFSCME Local 1343 and City of Burlington, Department of Public Works through December 31, 2026, subject to review and approval of the City Attorney.

City Council Motion

- Authorize the DPW Director to extend the DPW Employee Retention and Recruitment Memorandum of Agreement between AFSCME Local 1343 and City of Burlington, Department of Public Works through December 31, 2026, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney.

Attachments:

- DPW Employee Retention and Recruitment Memorandum of Agreement between AFSCME Local 1343 and City of Burlington, Department of Public Works
- Recycling scenario budget spreadsheet

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or requests for additional information (cspencer@burlingtonvt.gov or lperry@burlingtonvt.gov). Thank you.

DPW Employee Retention and Recruitment Memorandum
of Agreement between
AFSCME Local 1343 and
City of Burlington, Department of Public Works

This Memorandum of Agreement is entered into on this 20th day of May, 2025 ("Effective Date") is by and between the City of Burlington, Vermont (hereafter "City")and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Local #1343, (hereafter "Union" or "AFSCME"). This Agreement memorializes the understanding between the City and the Union (hereafter "Parties") over practices relating to DPW employee retention and recruitment.

WHEREAS, The Parties agree on the shared goals of retaining existing Recycling and Street Maintenance staff, while the decision for the future of the City's Recycling program is being contemplated and filling open positions in both Recycling and Street Maintenance for a better staffed team while this decision is being discussed.; and

WHEREAS, Retaining workers through this decision-making process and making strategic staffing recruitment efforts in the Recycling and Street Maintenance programs, will limit times Street Maintenance Workers are pulled off other jobs to assist with recycling, benefiting both Parties; and

WHEREAS, The Parties have worked quickly, collaboratively, and productively together to address these urgent needs and mutually wish to employ certain retention and recruitment tactics in furtherance of these shared goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, in light of these shared goals, and recognition and incorporation of the foregoing, the Parties agree as follows:

1. The Parties agree that the following recruitment and retention measures shall be implemented by the City on upon the Effective Date and shall be in force and effect through December 31, 2025, unless otherwise extended or altered by further written agreement of the Parties:

A. Provide a Four Dollars ($4.00) per hour premium, retroactive to April 22, 2025, when Management, and AFSCME met with the Street Maintenance and Recycling teams about this proposal, to any current City employee employed full-time Recycling and Street Maintenance employee with a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) who drives and collects recycling Such premium shall be paid for the hours worked performing recycling duties. Any new hire in Recycling or Street Maintenance that receives the hiring bonus in lieu of such premium, will not be eligible for the Four Dollars ($4.00) per hour premium pay.

B. Institute the following scheduling order for Recycling if more workers are needed beyond the Recycling Workers, to:

- Ask for volunteers from Street Maintenance; At least three (3) total recycling drivers per shift shall be required;

- If more workers are known to be needed at least 24 hours in advance of a Recycling Driver shift, ask other DPW CDL drivers to volunteer to work after 3pm as overtime; and
- If more workers are needed, assign Street Maintenance employees to do the work on a rotating basis.

If there is more interest than need, workers shall be selected based upon seniority within each tier of the scheduling order.

C. Implement hiring bonuses for AFSCME Street Maintenance and Recycling positions until filled, as follows:

- $2,000 hiring bonuses for Regular Full-time Union positions, paying out $500 after each quarter of the year worked.

D. Implement a referral bonus:

- A $500 referral bonus for any City employee that refers an applicant to the Right of Way Field Technician I, or II, and the Recycling Driver positions, the applicant is hired, and they successfully complete their probationary period.

2. The Parties agree that beginning on May 13, 2025, any open Recycling slots will be filled by Street Maintenance Workers on a voluntary-basis with the previously stated premiums as described in section 1, A of this agreement, and if there are not enough volunteers, Section 1, B will be instituted until open slots are filled on a daily basis.
3. The above-mentioned terms, beliefs and conditions are agreed upon by both Parties and shall not be altered or amended unless further agreed upon and reduced to writing by both parties. The Parties agree that this Agreement in no way alters the terms or conditions of the agreed upon collective bargaining agreement between the City and the Union and merely clarifies the Parties' understanding with respect tot he rates of pay, incentives, and scheduling of recycling work while the future of the recycling program is determined. This Agreement shall expire in its entirety on December 31, 2025 unless otherwise modified by agreement as described herein.

Dated at Burlington, VT this 22 day of May, 2025.

City of Burlington

By: _____
Emma Mulvaney-Stanak, Mayor

AFSCME, LOCAL #1343

By: _____
Duly Authorized Representative and Agent

First Amended DPW Employee Retention and Recruitment Memorandum of Agreement between AFSCME Local 1343 and City of Burlington, Department of Public Works

This First Amendment (this "First Amendment") is entered into on this __ day of December, 2025 ("Effective Date") between the City of Burlington, Vermont (hereafter "City") and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Local#1343, (hereafter "Union" or "AFSCME"), with respect to the following:

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2025, the parties entered into an agreement entitled DPW Employee Retention and Recruitment Memorandum of Agreement between AFSCME Local 1343 and City of Burlington, Department of Public Works (the "Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the Agreement is set to expire December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the long-term future of the City's Recycling Program has not been solidified; and

WHEREAS, it is advantageous to both parties under the circumstances to extend the term of the Agreement until December 31, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and for other good and valuable consideration, the parties agree as follows:

1. The Term of the Agreement is hereby extended until December 31, 2026.

2. Except as set forth herein, the Agreement shall remain unmodified and in full force and effect.

Dated at Burlington, VT this __ day of December, 2025.

City of Burlington

By: _____
Emma Mulvaney-Stanak, Mayor

AFSCME, LOCAL #1343

By: _____
Duly Authorized Representative and Agent

PROJECTED RECYCLING BUDGET COMPARISONS - SUSTAINABLE CITY-RUN RECYCLING BUDGET VS. CONTRACT

Description	2026 APPROVED DPW Recycling & Solid Waste Budget	PROPOSED FUTURE Sustainable Recycling & Solid Waste Budget	PROPOSED FUTURE Contractor-Run Recycling & Solid Waste Budget	Notes
Recycling Fees	1,700,000.00	1,627,200.00	1,627,200.00	SWGT revenues based on existing RDUs
Recycling Containers	7,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	Sale of toters
TOTAL REVENUES	**1,707,000.00**	**1,637,200.00**	**1,637,200.00**	
		-		
Salaries and Wages Regular, Full Time	263,689.00	420,869.00	32,947.00	Sustainable: 4 Drivers, 1 Working Foreperson, 1 Manager
Overtime	35,000.00	20,000.00		
Other Personnel Services On-Call	3,605.00	3,650.00		
Other Personnel Services Other Compensation	20,300.00	84,000.00		Hiring and referral bonuses, premiums, etc.
Other Personnel Services Shift Differential	103.00	103.00		
Other Personnel Services Taxable Reimbursements	1,545.00	1,545.00		
Other Personnel Services Allowance Taxable	3,090.00	4,800.00		Safety, boot, clothing allowance
Employee Benefits FICA	25,041.00	40,924.98	2,520.45	
Employee Benefits Workers Compensation	7,638.00	12,626.07		
Medical Fees And Supplies	500.00	500.00		
Special Supplies	65,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	Toter purchase
Small Tools and Equipment	500.00	500.00		
Clothing And Uniforms	750.00	750.00		
Legal Notice & Advertising	1,500.00	1,500.00		
Utilities Electricity	-	1,500.00		
Utilities Gas	-	3,000.00		
Utilities Water/Wastewater	-	1,500.00		
Utilities Stormwater	-	1,500.00		
Utilities Cellular Communications	400.00	400.00		
Professional & Consultant Svs Contract. Services	430,000.00	430,000.00	1,522,327.00	$270K CSWD tip fees, $160K for 201 Flynn Ave (+Casella)
Real Estate Taxes	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	201 Flynn Ave
Vehicle/Equipment Repairs	75,000.00	75,000.00		Truck rental, vehicle contingency
Capital Outlay Capital Expenditures	260,000.00	260,000.00	100,000.00	$160K annual truck leases (+$100K for landfill maint.)
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES	**1,204,661.00**	**1,400,668.05**	**1,693,794.45**	
RECYCLING & SW BUDGET NET	**502,339.00**	**236,531.95**	**(56,594.45)**	
Other Direct Expenses in Other Budgets				
Health / Benefits	95,940.91	143,911.37	-	Recycling FTE benefits (est., percent of payroll)
DPW Costs (vehicle repair, tires, fuel, etc.)	199,138.00	199,138.00		Recycling costs that are in other DPW budgets
TOTAL OTHER DIRECTS	**295,078.91**	**343,049.37**	**-**	
RECYCLING & SW NET WITH ALL DIRECTS	**207,260.09**	**(106,517.41)**	**(56,594.45)**	
CIty Indirect Costs in Other Budgets				
CIty Indirect Costs (DFA, CA, etc.)	60,658.36	90,987.54		Pro-rata share of City overhead, based on FTE %
TOTAL INDIRECT EXPENSES	**60,658.36**	**90,987.54**	**0.00**	
TOTAL DIRECT & INDIRECT EXPENSES	**1,560,398.27**	**1,834,704.95**	**1,693,794.45**	
		17.6%	*8.5%*	*% increase in expenses over FY'26*
OVERALL NET	**146,601.73**	**(197,504.95)**	**(56,594.45)**	
Current Recycling RDUs	11,800	11,300	11,300	Based on existing served RDUs
SWGT	$12.00	$13.53	$12.49	
Percent Change from FY'26		*12.8%*	*4.1%*	*% increase in SWGT over FY'26*
Restored Recycling RDUs	11,800	11,800	11,800	If we institue flow control and picked up lost customers
SWGT	$12.00	$12.96	$11.96	
Percent Change from FY'26		*8.0%*	*-0.3%*	*% increase in SWGT over FY'26*

* Assumes 4% salary inc., no increase in benefits cost/FTE, $894/mo Casella fuel surcharge

Board of Finance and City Council Submission Checklist

Version: April 2025

Department: Public Works Submitter: Chapin Spencer/Lee Perry

Title/Subject: City's Recylcing Program Update/Extension of Employee Recruitment and Retention Memorandum of Agreement

Approval Requested:		Meeting Date:
☐	Board of Finance	Click or tap to enter a date.
☐	City Council	Click or tap to enter a date.
☒	Both BOF and Council	12/15/2025

Instructions

1. This form must be completed by the person submitting the materials.
2. This form must be sent with the final submission of materials in advance of the meeting.
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4. Commission reports and presentations do not need to be reviewed by the CAO or Attorneys.
5. Name the reviewing Attorney or HR Manager in the Note column.

Signoff Needed	Received?	Approval Date	Note
Department Head	Yes	12/8/2025	Approved by Chapin Spencer
Mayor's Office	Yes	12/8/2025	Approved by Erin Jacobsen
Board/Commission	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
City Attorney's Office for memo and contracts or legal documents	Yes	12/10/2025	Approved by Eric Ramakrishnan
City Attorney's Office for memo and motion(s) or resolution(s)	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
CAO for budget, financing, and memo	Yes	12/8/2025	Approved by Katherine Schad
Human Resources, if personnel action or policy	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.
CIO, if IT-related	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter text.

CITY OF BURLINGTON

ORDINANCE _____
Sponsor: Dept. of Permitting and Inspections, Ordinance Committee
Public Hearing Dates: _____

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty-Five

_____
First reading: _____
Referred to: _____
Rules suspended and placed in all Stages of passage: _____
Second reading: _____
Action: _____
Date: _____
Signed by Mayor: _____
Published: _____
Effective: _____

An Ordinance in Relation to

SIDEWALK INTERFERENCE
BCO Chapter 27, Art. I

It is hereby Ordained by the City Council of the City of Burlington as follows:

That Chapter 27, Streets and Sidewalks, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Burlington be and is hereby amended by amending Article I, In General, Sec. 27-21, Penalty; to read as follows:

***

27-4 Unnecessary interference with use of sidewalk.

No person shall unnecessarily occupy, obstruct or encumber, or cause to be unnecessarily occupied, obstructed or encumbered, a sidewalk so as to interfere with the convenient use of the same by the public.

***

27-21 Penalty.

A violation of any provision of articles I, III, IV and V of this chapter shall be a civil offense punishable by a civil penalty of from fifty dollars ($50.00) to five hundred dollars ($500.00). The waiver penalty for purposes of the municipal complaint (civil ticket) shall be equal to the waiver penalty established pursuant to 4 V.S.A. § 1102(d) for violations of Subchapter 12 of Chapter 13 of Title 23 for each offense. Each day the violation continues shall be a separate offense. ~~All law enforcement officers~~ All municipal employees authorized to issue municipal complaints are authorized to issue a municipal complaint for a violation of this chapter.

***

* Material stricken out deleted.
** Material underlined added.

WW/ks/Ordinances 2025/Sidewalk Intereference/BCO Ch. 27, Art. I
Sec. 27-21.
12/5/2025

Permitting and Inspections Department
645A Pine St, PO Box 849
Burlington, VT 05402-0849
VOICE (802) 863-0442
FAX: (802) 652-4221

To: Burlington City Council &
Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
From: William M. Ward
Date: December 11, 2025
Subject: Chapter 27 Ordinance amendment

Overview

The Department of Permitting and Inspections occasionally receives complaints from residents about vegetation overgrowth at private properties that partially or fully obstructs the sidewalk. Warning notices are not enough to compel every property owner to comply with the city ordinance. The current ordinance grants authority to law enforcement officers to ticket for these violations. At the December 1, 2025 City Council meeting I requested an amendment of Chapter 27 of Burlington City Ordinance to grant the Department of Permitting and Inspections authority to issue tickets to violators and increase the penalty.

Current Challenge

Chapter 27-4 prohibits "Unnecessary interference with use of sidewalk". 27-21 grants authority to Law Enforcement officers to issue $50 municipal tickets for violations of Chapter 27.

In recent years, DPI staff assisted the Parks Department and the Department of Public Works when they received a complaint about sidewalk vegetation encroachment. DPI staff would contact the property owner to alert them of the need to clear vegetation from their property that obstructs the sidewalk. The photo below shows an example of a typical obstructed sidewalk complaint.

Problem obstruction example

Our efforts to gain voluntary compliance with the ordinance are sometimes ignored and my office has no other direct authority. The City Charter article 72 grants authority to the Parks Department to get approval from the Board of Finance and City Council to clear the sidewalk in these cases and lien the property owner for the costs. That is a cumbersome and time consuming process.

Ordinance Committee action

The Ordinance Committee held a public meeting to discuss this amendment on Friday December 5th. The Committed decided to separate the issues of authority from the penalties in order to further study the penalty amount in a future committee meeting. The Committee agreed unanimously that the authority to issue tickets under this section should be expanded from just allowing law enforcement officers to issue tickets. They agreed that granting authority to all municipal employees who have ticketing authority under this section was the correct recommendation.

Proposed motion

City Council Motion:

- To waive the reading, approve the ordinance as amended by the Ordinance Committee.

CITY OF BURLINGTON

ORDINANCE 6.10
Sponsor: Dept. of Permitting and Inspections, Ordinance Committee
Public Hearing Dates: _____

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty-Five

First reading: 11/17/25
Referred to: Ordinance Committee
Rules suspended and placed in all Stages of passage: _____
Second reading: 12/15/25
Action: adopted
Date: 12/15/25
Signed by Mayor: 12/16/25
Published: 01/07/26
Effective: 01/27/26

An Ordinance in Relation to

SIDEWALK INTERFERENCE
BCO Chapter 27, Art. I

It is hereby Ordained by the City Council of the City of Burlington as follows:

That Chapter 27, Streets and Sidewalks, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Burlington be and is hereby amended by amending Article I, In General, Sec. 27-21, Penalty; to read as follows:

***

27-4 Unnecessary interference with use of sidewalk.

No person shall unnecessarily occupy, obstruct or encumber, or cause to be unnecessarily occupied, obstructed or encumbered, a sidewalk so as to interfere with the convenient use of the same by the public.

***

27-21 Penalty.

A violation of any provision of articles I, III, IV and V of this chapter shall be a civil offense punishable by a civil penalty of from fifty dollars ($50.00) to five hundred dollars ($500.00). The waiver penalty for purposes of the municipal complaint (civil ticket) shall be equal to the waiver penalty established pursuant to 4 V.S.A. § 1102(d) for violations of Subchapter 12 of Chapter 13 of Title 23 for each offense. Each day the violation continues shall be a separate offense. ~~All law enforcement officers~~ All municipal employees authorized to issue municipal complaints are authorized to issue a municipal complaint for a violation of this chapter.

***

* Material stricken out deleted.
** Material underlined added.

WW/ks/Ordinances 2025/Sidewalk Intereference/BCO Ch. 27, Art. I
Sec. 27-21.
12/5/2025

ORIGINAL

AN ORDINANCE
IN RELATION TO

Sidewalk Interference BCO Chapter 27, Art. I

Introduced by

~~Councilor~~ DPI and Ordinance Committee

Read in City Council first time

November 17 , 20 25 .

Attest,

, Clerk.

Rules suspended, and ordinance placed in all stages of passage.

, 20 .

Attest,

, Clerk.

Read in City Council second time

December 15 , 20 25 .

Attest,

, Clerk.

Passed in City Council at meeting held

December 15 , 20 25 .

Attest,

, Clerk.

Approved Dec 16 , 20 25

, Mayor.

I, DOF Kukenberger /~~City~~ Clerk of the City of Burlington and Clerk of the City Council of said City, do hereby certify that the within written Ordinance has been duly published according to Law and the Charter of the City, and in compliance with said Charter this certificate is hereto attached.

And the within Ordinance was ordered published for Wednesday day, namely the 7th day of January , 20 26 .

Adopted 12/15/25 Published 01/07/26 Effective 01/27/26

DOF
~~City~~ Clerk

* * * * * * * *

Distribution

I hereby certify that this Ordinance has been sent to the following department(s) on

DPI Director Ward

Attest:

Lori Olberg
Council and Licensing Coordinator

* * * * * * * *

CITY OF BURLINGTON

ORDINANCE _____
Sponsor: *Councilor Traverse, Ordinance Committee*
Public Hearing Dates: _____
_____
First reading: _____
Referred to: _____
Rules suspended and placed in all stages of passage: _____
Second reading: _____
Action: _____
Date: _____
Signed by Mayor: _____
Published: _____
Effective: _____

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty-Five

An Ordinance in Relation to

UNLAWFUL ENTRY INTO A MOTOR VEHICLE

It is hereby Ordained by the City Council of the City of Burlington as follows:

That Chapter 21, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Burlington be and hereby is amended by amending Article 1, In General; Section 21-45, Unlawful trespass; as follows:

21-45 Unlawful trespass.

(a) It shall be unlawful for a person who, without legal authority or the consent of the person in lawful possession, enters or remains on any land or in any place as to which notice against trespass is given by:

(~~a~~i) Actual communication by the person in lawful possession or their agent or by a law enforcement officer, community service officer, community support liaison, urban park ranger, parks patrol, the city's contracted private security, or any other city official authorized to enforce the city's ordinances, acting on behalf of such person or their agent pursuant to protocols and/or directives established by the police department; or

(~~b~~ii) Signs or placards so designed and situated as to give reasonable notice.

(b) It shall also be unlawful for a person to enter the motor vehicle of another and know that the person does not have the legal authority or the consent of the person in lawful possession of the motor vehicle. Notice of trespass shall not be required under this subsection.

(c) A violation of this section shall be a civil matter and enforced in accordance with the provisions of 24 V.S.A. section 1974a and section 1977 et seq. A civil penalty of not more than five hundred dollars ($500.00) may be imposed for a violation of this section. The civil penalty may, at the discretion of the prosecuting official, be eliminated or reduced upon the successful completion of a restorative or reparative justice program through the community justice program. In lieu of further process and prosecution, persons ticketed for violations of this section may pay a waiver penalty under the schedule set out below:

Waiver Penalty:

First offense: The waiver penalty shall be two hundred fifty dollars ($250.00).

Second offense, within a six-month period: The waiver penalty shall be three hundred dollars ($300.00).

Third offense or more, within a twelve-month period: The waiver penalty shall be four hundred dollars ($400.00).

Each time that the violation occurs will constitute a separate violation of this section. Any law enforcement officer, community service officer, community support liaison, urban park rangers, parks patrol, or any other city official authorized to enforce the city's ordinances, can enforce this section.

* Material stricken out deleted.
** Material underlined added.

Ordinances 2025/Unlawful Entry into a Motor Vehicle/BCO Ch. 21, Article 1
Sec. 21-45
12/5/2025

JESSICA C. BROWN, ESQ.
City Attorney
KIMBERLEE J. STURTEVANT, ESQ.
ACA, Director of Litigation
HAYLEY I. McCLENAHAN, ESQ.
Assistant City Attorney
ERIK RAMAKRISHNAN, ESQ.
ACA, Director of Gen. Gov't
& Transactional Servs.
EMMETT WOOD, ESQ.
Assistant City Attorney

149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401-8489
Phone: (802) 865-7121
Fax: (802) 865-7123
TTY: (802) 865-7142

CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
OFFICE OF
THE CITY ATTORNEY
AND
CORPORATION COUNSEL

MEMO

TO: Burlington City Council
Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak
FR: Kimberlee Sturtevant as staff for the City Council Ordinance Committee
DT: December 11, 2025
RE: Ordinance Amendment for Unlawful Entry Into a Motor Vehicle
****

On November 17, 2025, a proposed amendment to the Burlington Code of Ordinances, Section 21-45, Unlawful Trespass, was brought before the Council. The Council waived the reading and referred it to Ordinance Committee. The proposed ordinance amendment was to update the City's ordinance to reflect a change in state law.

In 2024, the Vermont General Assembly updated 13 V.S.A. §3705 on "Unlawful Trespass" to provide that:

> A person who enters the motor vehicle of another and knows that the person does not have legal authority or the consent of the person in lawful possession of the motor vehicle to do so shall be imprisoned not more than three months or fined not more than $500.00, or both. For a second or subsequent offense, a person who violates this subsection shall be imprisoned not more than one year or fined not more than $500.00, or both. Notice against trespass shall not be required under this subsection.

The change was to address a significant increase in the number of reported incidents statewide of individuals entering residents' vehicles without their permission, oftentimes during late night or early morning hours. Attached is Act 129, *An act relating to unlawful trespass in a motor vehicle and unauthorized operation of a motor vehicle without the owner's consent,* as enacted, as well as supporting material from the National Insurance Crime Bureau and then Chief of South Burlington Police Shawn Burke.

As part of the requested amendment, it was noted that while incidents of unlawfully entering a motor vehicle often happen overnight, many residents have installed home camera systems, which may assist law enforcement officers in readily identifying offenders. It was also noted that, while the economic damage associated with unlawfully entering a motor vehicle is often limited, the unauthorized entry constitutes a significant violation of personal security and privacy that is particularly well-suited for restorative justice practices aimed at repairing harm and facilitating dialogue. On August 25, 2025, the City Council enacted a proposed ordinance from the Mayor's Office to establish the "City Circle," a restorative justice program through the Community Justice Center to address criminal and civil ordinance violations, including, but not limited to violations of Section 21-45 on Unlawful Trespass. The proposed amendment is intended to include unlawfully entering a motor vehicle be among those offenses the City Circle initiative may address pursuant to the provisions of Burlington Code of Ordinances Section 1-10 on "Prosecution and city circle."

The proposed ordinance amendment went before the Ordinance Committee on December 5, 2025 and was unanimously approved by all Committee members present and referred back to the City Council with a request for a staff memo with input from Burlington Chief of Police, Shawn Burke.

Chief Burke has indicated that the proposed ordinance change is very logical considering the criminal statute. He also noted that the proposed ordinance change could help with prosecution as the paperwork process is far less arduous, noting the ability to simply issue a VMC for this level of criminality is efficient. Further the civil penalty offers a level of accountability that may not happen via the criminal legal system.

The proposed ordinance amendment is scheduled to be back before the Council for action on December 15, 2025. The proposed motion: waive the reading, adopt the ordinance.

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. The City is also committed to providing proper access to services, facilities, and employment opportunities. For accessibility information or alternative formats, please contact Human Resources Department at (802) 540-2505.

No. 129. An act relating to unlawful trespass in a motor vehicle and unauthorized operation of a motor vehicle without the owner's consent.

(H.563)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 3705 is amended to read:

§ 3705. UNLAWFUL TRESPASS

(a)(1) A person shall be imprisoned for not more than three months or fined not more than $500.00, or both, if, without legal authority or the consent of the person in lawful possession, ~~he or she~~ the person enters or remains on any land or in any place as to which notice against trespass is given by:

(A) actual communication by the person in lawful possession or ~~his or her~~ the person's agent or by a law enforcement officer acting on behalf of such person or ~~his or her~~ the person's agent;

(B) signs or placards so designed and situated as to give reasonable notice; or

(C) in the case of abandoned property:

(i) signs or placards, posted by the owner, the owner's agent, or a law enforcement officer, and so designed and situated as to give reasonable notice; or

(ii) actual communication by a law enforcement officer.

(2) As used in this subsection, "abandoned property" means:

(A) real property on which there is a vacant structure that for the previous 60 days has been continuously unoccupied by a person with the legal

right to occupy it and with respect to which the municipality has by first-class mail to the owner's last known address provided the owner with notice and an opportunity to be heard; and

(i) property taxes have been delinquent for six months or more; or

(ii) one or more utility services have been disconnected; or

(B) a railroad car that for the previous 60 days has been unmoved and unoccupied by a person with the legal right to occupy it.

(b) Prosecutions for offenses under subsection (a) of this section shall be commenced within 60 days following the commission of the offense and not thereafter.

(c) A person who enters the motor vehicle of another and knows that the person does not have legal authority or the consent of the person in lawful possession of the motor vehicle to do so shall be imprisoned not more than three months or fined not more than $500.00, or both. For a second or subsequent offense, a person who violates this subsection shall be imprisoned not more than one year or fined not more than $500.00, or both. Notice against trespass shall not be required under this subsection.

(d) A person who enters a building other than a residence, whose access is normally locked, whether or not the access is actually locked, or a residence in violation of an order of any court of competent jurisdiction in this State shall be imprisoned for not more than one year or fined not more than $500.00, or both.

~~(d)~~(e) A person who enters a dwelling house, whether or not a person is actually present, knowing that ~~he or she~~ the person is not licensed or privileged to do so shall be imprisoned for not more than three years or fined not more than $2,000.00, or both.

~~(e)~~(f) A law enforcement officer shall not be prosecuted under subsection (a) of this section if ~~he or she~~ the law enforcement officer is authorized to serve civil or criminal process, including citations, summons, subpoenas, warrants, and other court orders, and the scope of ~~his or her~~ the law enforcement officer's entrance onto the land or place of another is ~~no~~ not more than necessary to effectuate the service of process.

Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 1094 is amended to read:

§ 1094. OPERATION WITHOUT CONSENT OF OWNER;
AGGRAVATED OPERATION WITHOUT CONSENT OF OWNER

(a) A person commits the crime of operation without consent of the owner if:

(1) the person takes, obtains, operates, uses, or continues to operate the motor vehicle of another when the person should have known that the person did not have the consent of the owner to do so; or

(2) the person~~, without the consent of the owner, knowingly~~ takes, obtains, operates, uses, or continues to operate the motor vehicle of another when the person knows that the person did not have the consent of the owner to do so.

* * *

(c) A person convicted under subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall be fined not more than $500.00. A person convicted under ~~subsection~~ subdivision (a)(2) of this section ~~of operation without consent of the owner~~ shall be imprisoned not more than two years or fined not more than $1,000.00, or both.

* * *

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

Date Governor signed bill: May 30, 2024

March 19, 2024

Hon. Dick Sears, Jr. and Members of the Committee
Committee on Judiciary
Vermont Senate

RE: H. 563 – Attempted Auto Theft - Support

Dear Chair Sears and Members of the Committee:

The National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) is a national, century-old, not-for-profit organization supported by approximately 1,200 property and casualty insurance companies, including many who write business in Vermont. Working hand-in-hand with our member companies and Vermont law enforcement and regulatory agencies, we help to detect, prevent, and deter insurance crimes, including vehicle theft..

Vehicle thefts are on the rise across the country, including in Vermont. While 2023 vehicle theft numbers are not yet finalized, Vermont vehicle thefts increased 163 percent from 2020 to 2022. Moreover in 2020, out of the 390 U.S. metropolitan statatiscal areas (MSAs) the Burlington-South Burlington, VT MSA ranked *(adjusted for population)* in the bottom 15 percent for vehicle thefts; in 2022 the Burlington-South Burlington MSA shot to the top-third. Vehicle theft not only is a big finanical hit to Vermonters, but can lead to missing school, work, and other important obligations. Worse, stolen vehicles are often used in the commission of secondary crimes, including robbery, murder, arson, and drug and human trafficking.

Vehicle break-ins are equally concerning. Thieves often use items and documents stored in cars to commit more crimes. Personal papers found within the vehicle can be used to commit identity theft. Vehicle titles can be used to create fake titles. Garage door openers found in cars are regularly used to gain access to and burglarize homes. And too often extra sets of car keys left inside the vehicle are used to then steal the car.

Accordingly, we strongly encourage your support of H. 563 which seeks to close vehicle theft and break-in loopholes in Vermont statute, including creating the crimes of attempted auto theft and entering a vehicle without consent

We thank you for scheduling a hearing and for considering our views as you deliberate the merits of the bill. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at hhandler@nicb.org or 312-771-3974.

Sincerely,

Howard Handler

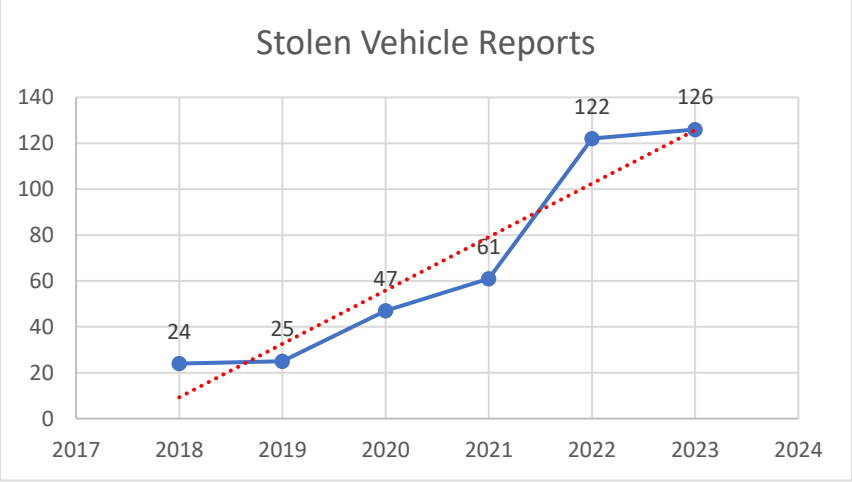
Howard Handler, MPPA
Senior Director, Office of Strategy, Policy, and Government Affairs

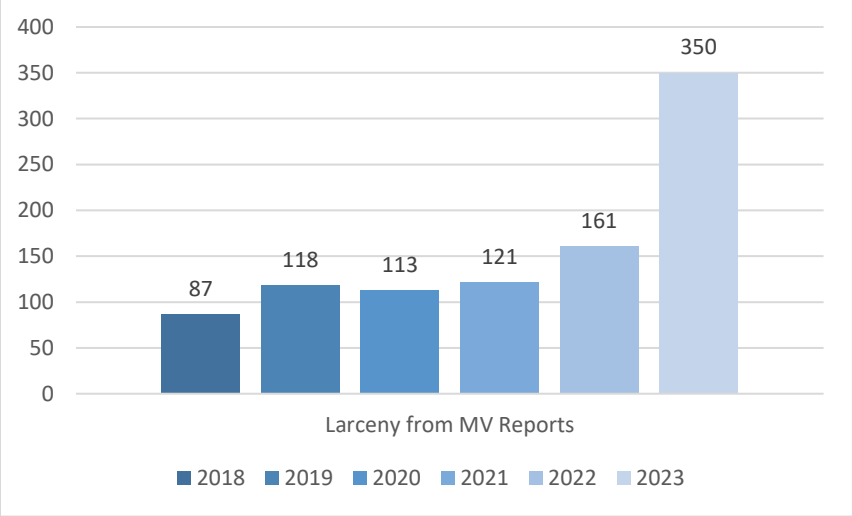
southburlington
POLICE

Good morning Senators, I appreciate the opportunity to testify on H. 563. My name is Shawn Burke and I have the privilege of serving as the Chief of Police in South Burlington.

Chittenden County has been experiencing a sharp increase in both the number of reported thefts from motor vehicles and stolen cars. This property crime trend has resulted in large segments of the community experiencing harm, this harm has eroded how constituents view public safety in their neighborhoods.

The data points in South Burlington illustrate the severity of the increase seen County wide:





Many of the people responsible for these crimes are justice involved, substance dependent, impoverished, and are not in a place to address the challenges fueling their criminality. Another challenge is the lack of adequate statutory framework to address these crimes in general.

H. 563 improves the relevant statutory framework Vermont law enforcement relies upon when investigating these crime trends:

- The proposed language in Title 13 VSA §2501 provides clear statutory guidance for attempts made to steal a motor vehicle. Law enforcement does encounter persons in the act at times, the addition of this language makes clear which statute is applicable.
- The proposed language to Title 13 VSA §3705 closes a loop hole suspects use when law enforcement encounters them in the act of looking in cars for items to steal. Despite how reasonable it is to assume that a person prowling through parked cars in a neighborhood is committing a crime, that is often not the case. Many of these suspects are released on scene absent finding the suspect with stolen property on their person or making an admission against their own penal interest, the proposed change in the bill provides greater clarity.
- The most critical piece of the proposed language is the addition of a "knew or should have known standard". Constituents are simply baffled to learn that a person they don't know, can enter or operate their car without their consent, and not be held accountable.
- The existing statutory language of Title 23 VSA §1094 was thoughtfully constructed to differentiate between the act of a joy ride and depriving a person of their car. The current knowingly standard is being exploited by those involved in vehicle theft, simply telling investigating officers that they were lent or given the stolen car by someone who is not the registered owner. Without being able to link the apprehended person with the theft of the car, the knowingly standard is difficult to prove and nearly impossible to explain to the crime victim.
- A majority of the cars stolen are recovered; having been used in other crimes, left soiled with drug paraphernalia and filled with stolen property, and sometimes extensively damaged. The harm that car owners experience is wide-ranging; fear of fentanyl exposure, fear of exposure to blood born pathogens, and the financial burden of restoring their car following recovery – this is often overwhelming for many and cost prohibitive for some.

A more effective criminal justice intervention is needed to both hold the offenders accountable and restore crime victims in a meaningful way, H. 563 is an improvement in this regard.

CITY OF BURLINGTON

ORDINANCE 6.11
Sponsor: *Councilor Traverse, Ordinance Committee*
Public Hearing Dates: _____

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty-Five

First reading: 11/17/25
Referred to: Ordinance Committee

An Ordinance in Relation to

UNLAWFUL ENTRY INTO A MOTOR VEHICLE

Rules suspended and placed in all stages of passage: _____
Second reading: 12/15/25
Action: adopted
Date: 12/15/25
Signed by Mayor: 12/16/25
Published: 01/07/26
Effective: 01/27/26

It is hereby Ordained by the City Council of the City of Burlington as follows:

That Chapter 21, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Burlington be and hereby is amended by amending Article 1, In General; Section 21-45, Unlawful trespass; as follows:

21-45 Unlawful trespass.

(a) It shall be unlawful for a person who, without legal authority or the consent of the person in lawful possession, enters or remains on any land or in any place as to which notice against trespass is given by:

(~~a~~i) Actual communication by the person in lawful possession or their agent or by a law enforcement officer, community service officer, community support liaison, urban park ranger, parks patrol, the city's contracted private security, or any other city official authorized to enforce the city's ordinances, acting on behalf of such person or their agent pursuant to protocols and/or directives established by the police department; or

(~~b~~ii) Signs or placards so designed and situated as to give reasonable notice.

(b) It shall also be unlawful for a person to enter the motor vehicle of another and know that the person does not have the legal authority or the consent of the person in lawful possession of the motor vehicle. Notice of trespass shall not be required under this subsection.

(c) A violation of this section shall be a civil matter and enforced in accordance with the provisions of 24 V.S.A. section 1974a and section 1977 et seq. A civil penalty of not more than five hundred dollars ($500.00) may be imposed for a violation of this section. The civil penalty may, at the discretion of the prosecuting official, be eliminated or reduced upon the successful completion of a restorative or reparative justice program through the community justice program. In lieu of further process and prosecution, persons ticketed for violations of this section may pay a waiver penalty under the schedule set out below:

Waiver Penalty:

ORIGINAL

AN ORDINANCE
IN RELATION TO

_____ _____ _

_____

_____

Introduced by

Councilor _____ _____

Read in City Council first time

_____ , 20_____ .

Attest,

_____ , Clerk.

Rules suspended, and ordinance placed in all stages of passage.

_____ , 20_____ .

Attest,

_____ , Clerk.

Read in City Council second time

_____ _____ , 20_____ .

Attest,

_____ , Clerk.

Passed in City Council at meeting held

_____ , 20_____ .

Attest,

_____ , Clerk.

Approved _____ , 20_____

_____ , Mayor.

I, DOF Kukenberger _____, *City Clerk* of the City of Burlington and Clerk of the City Council of said City, do hereby certify that the within written Ordinance has been duly published according to Law and the Charter of the City, and in compliance with said Charter this certificate is hereto attached.

And the within Ordinance was ordered published for _____ day, namely the _____ day of _____, 20 _____ .

Adopted 12/15/25 Published _____ Effective _____

_____, City Clerk

* * * * * * * *

Distribution

I hereby certify that this Ordinance has been sent to the following department(s) on

Attest:

* * * * * * * *

First offense: The waiver penalty shall be two hundred fifty dollars ($250.00).

Second offense, within a six-month period: The waiver penalty shall be three hundred dollars ($300.00).

Third offense or more, within a twelve-month period: The waiver penalty shall be four hundred dollars ($400.00).

Each time that the violation occurs will constitute a separate violation of this section. Any law enforcement officer, community service officer, community support liaison, urban park rangers, parks patrol, or any other city official authorized to enforce the city's ordinances, can enforce this section.

* Material stricken out deleted.
** Material underlined added.

Ordinances 2025/Unlawful Entry into a Motor Vehicle/BCO Ch. 21, Article 1
Sec. 21-45
12/5/2025

ORIGINAL

AN ORDINANCE
IN RELATION TO

Unlawful Entry Into A Motor Vehicle

Introduced by

Councilor Traverse

Read in City Council first time

November 17, 20 25.

Attest,

[signature], Clerk.

Rules suspended, and ordinance placed in all stages of passage.

_____, 20_____.

Attest,

_____, Clerk.

Read in City Council second time

December 15, 20 25.

Attest,

[signature], Clerk.

Passed in City Council at meeting held

December 15, 20 25.

Attest,

[signature], Clerk.

Approved Dec 16, 20 25

[signature], Mayor.

I, DOF Kukenberger, City Clerk/of the City of Burlington and Clerk of the City Council of said City, do hereby certify that the within written Ordinance has been duly published according to Law and the Charter of the City, and in compliance with said Charter this certificate is hereto attached.

And the within Ordinance was ordered published for Wednesday day, namely the 7th day of January, 20 26.

Adopted 12/15/25 Published 01/07/26 Effective 01/27/26

DOF
[signature], City Clerk

* * * * * * * *

Distribution

I hereby certify that this Ordinance has been sent to the following department(s) on

Attest:

* * * * * * * *

Resolution Relating to

COMPENSATION FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

RESOLUTION_____
Sponsor(s): Councilor Traverse
Introduced: _____
Referred to: _____
_____
Action: _____
Date: _____
Signed by Mayor: _____

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five..……

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

That WHEREAS, Title 16 of Vermont Statutes Annotated Section 562 authorizes a community's electorate to approve compensation for school board members; and

WHEREAS, the work demands and time requirements for appropriate service on the Burlington Board of School Commissioners has increased exponentially over the last several years as the Vermont Legislature and the Agency of Education have specified expanded areas of responsibility for the Board and its members; and

WHEREAS, in order to encourage thoughtful and dedicated citizens of the City to serve on the Board it is appropriate that a moderate amount of remuneration be made available annually to Board members; and

WHEREAS, authorization currently exists for annual remuneration for the services of City Council members;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Board of School Commissioners as follows: That the Burlington City Council be and hereby is officially requested to place the following question on the 2026 Annual City Meeting ballot, subject to any technical or form amendments recommended by the City Attorney and Corporation Counsel:

"Pursuant to the authority of Title 16, Section 562 of Vermont Statutes Annotated, shall annual remuneration for school board members in a total amount of two thousand ($2000) dollars, payable to Board members in quarterly installments of five hundred ($500) dollars and appropriately pro-rated for those members serving less than a full year, be approved?"

BT/JB/Resolutions 2025/*Compensation for School Board Members*
12/9/25

Resolution Relating to

COMPENSATION FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

RESOLUTION 6.12
Sponsor(s): Councilor Traverse
Introduced: 12/15/25
Referred to: _____

Action: adopted
Date: 12/15/25
Signed by Mayor: 12/16/25

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

That WHEREAS, Title 16 of Vermont Statutes Annotated Section 562 authorizes a community's electorate to approve compensation for school board members; and

WHEREAS, the work demands and time requirements for appropriate service on the Burlington Board of School Commissioners has increased exponentially over the last several years as the Vermont Legislature and the Agency of Education have specified expanded areas of responsibility for the Board and its members; and

WHEREAS, in order to encourage thoughtful and dedicated citizens of the City to serve on the Board it is appropriate that a moderate amount of remuneration be made available annually to Board members; and

WHEREAS, authorization currently exists for annual remuneration for the services of City Council members;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Board of School Commissioners as follows: That the Burlington City Council be and hereby is officially requested to place the following question on the 2026 Annual City Meeting ballot, subject to any technical or form amendments recommended by the City Attorney and Corporation Counsel:

"Pursuant to the authority of Title 16, Section 562 of Vermont Statutes Annotated, shall annual remuneration for school board members in a total amount of two thousand ($2000) dollars, payable to Board members in quarterly installments of five hundred ($500) dollars and appropriately pro-rated for those members serving less than a full year, be approved?"

BT/JB/Resolutions 2025/*Compensation for School Board Members*
12/9/25

* * * * * * * * * * * * * *

ORIGINAL

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution has been sent to the following department(s) on

BSD Chair Wool

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

Compensation For School Board Members

Adopted by the City Council

December 15, 20 25

Clerk

Approved Dec 16, 20 25

Mayor

Vol. ..... Page .....

Attest:

Lori Olberg
Council and Licensing Coordinator

* * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Resolution Relating to

MARCH 3, 2026 ANNUAL CITY MEETING – INCREASE IN POLICE & FIRE TAX RATE

RESOLUTION_____
Sponsor(s): Councilor Bergman
Introduced: _____
Referred to: _____
_____
Action: _____
Date: _____
Signed by Mayor: _____

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five..……
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

That WHEREAS, Section 102A of the Burlington City Charter authorizes the City Council annually to assess a municipal tax for the use of the Police Department (the "Police Tax") and a separate tax for the use of both the Fire and Police Departments (the "Public Safety Tax") upon the property grad list, which may be increased only "when a larger rate shall be authorized by the legal voters of the City of Burlington"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 98a of the Burlington City Charter, the Police and Public Safety Taxes are revenue neutral, meaning that the amounts generated do not increase either for inflation or following a citywide reappraisal; and

WHEREAS, voters last approved an increase to the Public Safety Tax in 2024, when they approved a 3-cent increase; and

WHEREAS, for Fiscal Year 2026, the approved Police Tax was 3.9-cents, and the approved Public Safety Tax rate was 6.95-cents, for a combined total of 10.85-cents; and

WHEREAS, due to general inflation and evolving public safety needs, the City Council desires to request voter authorization to increase the Public Safety Tax by 5-cents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following question shall be placed on the ballot of the Annual City Meeting to be held March 3, 2026:

"Pursuant to Section 102A of the City Charter, shall the property tax rate levied for the use of the police and fire departments be increased by five cents ($0.05), so that the combined public safety and police tax rates authorized under Section 102A are increased from a total maximum amount of ten and 85/100 cents ($0.1085) to fifteen and 85/100 cents ($0.1585), an approximate percent (6%) increase from the FY26 overall municipal rate?"

Tax Rate Increase
FY27 Budget Need

Raise Police & Fire Property Tax

- One option to close the $10-12M projected FY27 budget gap is to pursue is **$.05 increase to police & fire tax**
- **Would raise about $3M toward projected gap**
- Current police & fire tax projected to raise $6.4M this year
- In contrast the **budgets for those departments are $39.1M**
- Police & fire tax only raises 16% of costs for the services

Municipal Property Tax History

Note $353K is current median assessed value for home or condo in Burlington

Fiscal Year	Past Muni Tax Rate	Total Muni Tax on $353K Property	$ Increase	Total Muni Tax on $500K Property	$ Increase	% Increase
FY22	$.6704	$2,367		$3,352		
FY23	$.7085	$2,501	$134	$3,542	$190	5.7%
FY24	$.7523	$2,655	$154	$3,762	$220	6.2%
FY25	$.8326	$2,939	$284	$4,163	$401	10.7%
FY26	$.8556	$3,020	$81	$4,278	$115	2.8%

Property Tax Proposed

- The municipal tax rate is made up of 15 different splinter taxes, including Debt Service Tax and Retirement Tax. Those two splinter taxes increase or decrease automatically each year without voter approval to cover actual costs incurred by City.

- This means that by Charter at a minimum FY27 municipal taxes will go up $.0307 to cover Debt and Retirement expenses.

Municipal Property Tax Proposed

	Proposed Tax Increase	Total Proposed Muni Tax Rate*	Total Muni Tax on $353K Property	Annual $ Increase	Total Muni Tax on $500K Property	Annual $ Increase	% Increase
Required + $.05 for Police & Fire	**$.0807**	**$.9363**	**$3,305**	**$285**	**$4,682**	**$404**	**9.4%**
Required Only – Debt & Retirement	$.0307	$.8863	$3,129	$109	$4,432	$154	3.6%

Resolution Relating to

MARCH 3, 2026 ANNUAL CITY MEETING – ADVISORY QUESTION RE MUNICIPAL TAX REFORM

RESOLUTION_____
Sponsor(s): Councilor Gene Bergman
Introduced: _____
Referred to: _____
_____
Action: _____
Date: _____
Signed by Mayor: _____

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-five……
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

That WHEREAS, in CY25, the Mayor established a Tax Fairness Working Group to study the City's property tax system and to make recommendations to the Mayor and the City Council; and

WHEREAS, on October 6, 2025, the working group delivered its report to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, among the working group's suggestions were splinter tax reform and the establishment of a universal homestead real property tax exemption to make the City's property tax system more progressive; and

WHEREAS, the inclusion of a universal tax exemption would require resetting tax rates to avoid a significant loss of existing revenues for the City; and

WHEREAS, the municipal tax rate is determined, not by a single municipal tax on the grand list, but by a combination of more than fifteen tax rates, referred to as "splinter taxes", each for a different purpose and with its own method of calculation set by the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is considering whether to overhaul the City's municipal tax system, consistent with the suggestions in the final report of the Tax Fairness Working Group, and desires to engage the community and to obtain its feedback regarding proposed reforms;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council directs that the following advisory question be placed on the ballot for the March 3, 2026 Annual City Meeting:

Advisory Question No. 1. In 2025, the Mayor created a Tax Fairness Working Group to explore changes to Burlington's city tax system. The Working Group recommended a homestead tax exemption. This means the City would exclude part of the value of homestead properties when calculating municipal property taxes. Homestead properties are the primary homes people live in. This would lower the amount of property tax for lower-valued homes and would raise the taxes for higher-valued homes and for non-homestead properties, including second homes, rental properties, and commercial buildings. The total amount of property tax collected by the city would stay the same.

Would you support this change? Yes No

er/ Resolutions 2025/*TMD 2026 Advisory Question re Tax Fairness*
December 11, 2025

BURLINGTON VERMONT

TO:	City Council
FROM:	Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
CC:	Katherine Schad, Chief Administrative Officer Jessica Brown, City Attorney Jen Monroe Zakaras, Deputy Chief of Staff Nancy Stetson, Senior Policy & Data Analyst
DATE:	December 15, 2025
RE:	Background and Analyses for Town Meeting Day 2026 Advisory Question on $30k Homestead Tax Exemption

---

Purpose

This memo provides background context and the results of data analyses concerning the proposed advisory question for Town Meeting Day 2026 focused on a $30,000 homestead property tax exemption. Specifically, this memo describes the overall impacts of the exemption on homestead and non-homestead properties, as well as the impacts on rental properties, small multifamily properties, senior housing, permanently affordable housing, and commercial properties. The memo also presents overall impacts of the homestead exemption by city ward.

Key Points

- The proposed advisory question is non-binding and allows residents to voice their opinions on this issue ***before*** the Mayor and City Council take action.
- The proposed $30k homestead exemption is designed to help low- and moderate-income homeowners to continue to afford to live in Burlington.
- Nearly two-thirds of all homestead properties in Burlington would see a decrease of $150 or more off of their annual municipal tax bill. A homestead property is an owner-occupied primary residence.
- Tax rates set by the City Charter would be adjusted so that the proposed $30k homestead exemption would be revenue neutral. This means that non-homestead properties and high-value homestead properties would see increases in their annual municipal tax bills.
- The 3.1% increase in municipal tax bills for non-homestead properties is not expected to significantly increase rents in the city, for reasons explained starting on page 4.
- A revenue-neutral tax reform should be viewed holistically, considering the needs of renters, low- and moderate-income homeowners, and businesses alike, so that we balance “ability to pay” to ensure we maintain economic diversity and equity in Burlington.

Background

This year, the Mayor convened a Tax Fairness Working Group to study how to make Burlington's municipal tax system more equitable. A key finding[1] was that *inequitable property assessment* systematically burdened lower-value homeowners in the city. Specifically, lower-value properties are consistently over-assessed compared to their market value, while high-value properties are consistently under-assessed.[2] This means modest homeowners pay disproportionately more relative to their property's true market value. Inequitable property assessment is a well-documented issue in many parts of the country, not only Burlington, due to a number of structural and administrative reasons.[3]

A recommendation[1] from the Group that received the most support from members proposed creating a universal exemption for the first $30k to $50k of property value on homestead properties in the City, which would address the inequities in assessed values across low- and high-value properties. Value-based homestead exemptions exist in many states throughout the country. For example, South Carolina and Louisiana exempt $75,000 and $50,000, respectively, off of homestead properties. Burlington currently has a value exemption of $40,000 limited to veterans who are disabled, which is based on State law.

With the Mayor's commitment to addressing affordability in Burlington, she supports this recommendation[4] as a straightforward way to address the municipal tax burden on residents and rebalance how we raise revenue from primary residents compared to other types of property.

The proposed $30k homestead exemption is the minimal threshold to address the impacts of the assessment inequity noted by the Urban3 study. It is designed so that residential properties on the lowest end of the value scale receive the largest benefit. Tax rates set by the City Charter would be adjusted so that this is a *revenue-neutral measure*; therefore, the homestead exemption would

[1] See Tax Fairness Working Group Report:
https://burlingtonvt.portal.civicclerk.com/event/8227/files/attachment/11257
[2] According to a 2023 equity analysis of property in Burlington conducted by real estate analysis firm, Urban3:
https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/9216/Urban3-Presentation
[3] David Schleicher. "Your House Is Worth More Than They Think: The Strange Case of Property Tax Regressivity." Harvard Law School Journal on Legislation, Volume 62.1 (Winter 2025).
https://journals.law.harvard.edu/jol/2025/02/22/your-house-is-worth-more-than-they-think-the-strange-case-of-property-tax-regressivity/
[4] See the Mayor's memo to City Council on October 16, 2025 concerning Municipal Financial Policy Changes:
https://burlingtonvt.portal.civicclerk.com/event/8589/files/attachment/11629

lead to a 3.1% increase in municipal property taxes for all non-homestead properties and for the highest value homestead properties.[5]

These exemptions help *working households* in particular because they lower residential property-tax burdens, offering the greatest relief where it's most needed. This is especially helpful when home values rise faster than wages, as we are seeing in Burlington. Importantly, the proposed homestead exemption would apply only to primary homestead residences, which means the tax relief would go to people actually living and working in the community – especially important for working-class households.

Consistent with a core recommendation of the Tax Fairness Working Group, an advisory question would allow for *meaningful public engagement* – which is an essential component of implementing any tax reforms – by ensuring that residents have opportunities to learn about proposed changes and provide input before final decisions are made through a charter change. Robust public engagement is a key priority of Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak's administration.

An advisory question is a question placed on a ballot to measure public opinion, not to create or change law directly. The result does not force the City to make changes to existing laws, ordinances, or charter provisions, so it is *non-binding*. Instead, lawmakers can use the result to help decide whether to pursue charter or ordinance changes, adjust policy, or drop an idea altogether. Advisory questions thus strengthen democratic participation and public engagement by giving residents a chance to express their preferences on specific policies in ways that can guide future decision-making by elected officials.

Potential Impacts of the Proposed Homestead Exemption

Homestead Properties

Homestead properties, as defined by the state, are limited to owner-occupied primary residences. The benefit from the exemption is inversely proportional to the value of the homestead.

[5] The exemption has two mechanisms - a reduction in value for homesteads, and an increase in the tax rate to ensure the same level of overall revenue. For non-homestead properties, the only effect they see is the increase in the tax rate. For homestead properties, there is both a reduction from the exemption and an increase from the tax rate, but for most homestead properties the reduction from the exemption is higher than the increase from the tax rate, resulting in lower bills. For the highest value homestead properties, the tax rate increase counteracts the decrease in taxes from the exemption.

Out of 5,917 total homestead properties[6] in Burlington, nearly two-thirds (3,638) would see a decrease of $150 or more off of their annual municipal tax bill.

- A $30,000 exemption would eliminate the municipal property tax burden on properties assessed at less than $30,000 – for example, many of the mobile homes at the North Avenue Co-op.
- Homestead properties in Burlington assessed at under $200k (N=410), such as modest condos, would see their municipal bill reduced by a median of $210 annually, or about 17% off of the annual median municipal bill for those properties.
- Homestead properties with a value of $200k to $400k (N = 3,089) would see a median decrease of $178 annually, or 7% of their annual median bill.
- At an assessed value of about $1 million, the exemption and accompanying tax rate increase would balance, resulting in no change to the annual municipal bill. There are 118 homestead properties assessed at more than $1 million; these properties would see a median increase of $65 on their annual municipal bills, or about 0.6%.

Non-Homestead Properties

Non-homestead properties are those that are not owner-occupied primary residences. Examples include second homes or vacation properties, rental properties, and commercial properties.

All non-homestead properties would see a tax increase of 3.1% under the proposed $30k homestead exemption.

Rental Properties

As noted above, properties in Burlington that are rented would not receive the homestead exemption, resulting in an approximately 3.1% increase in the annual municipal property tax bill for these properties.

This table shows the effect of the homestead exemption on a selection of rental properties, from small to large scale and representing various levels of value.

[6] For the purposes of this analysis, any property that is at least partially a homestead is included here (e.g., homestead properties that are partially rentals or also have a business use).

Depending on the assessed value per unit, the municipal bill change, *if* entirely and evenly passed down to renters, could result in a small monthly increase of about $8 or less per month per unit.

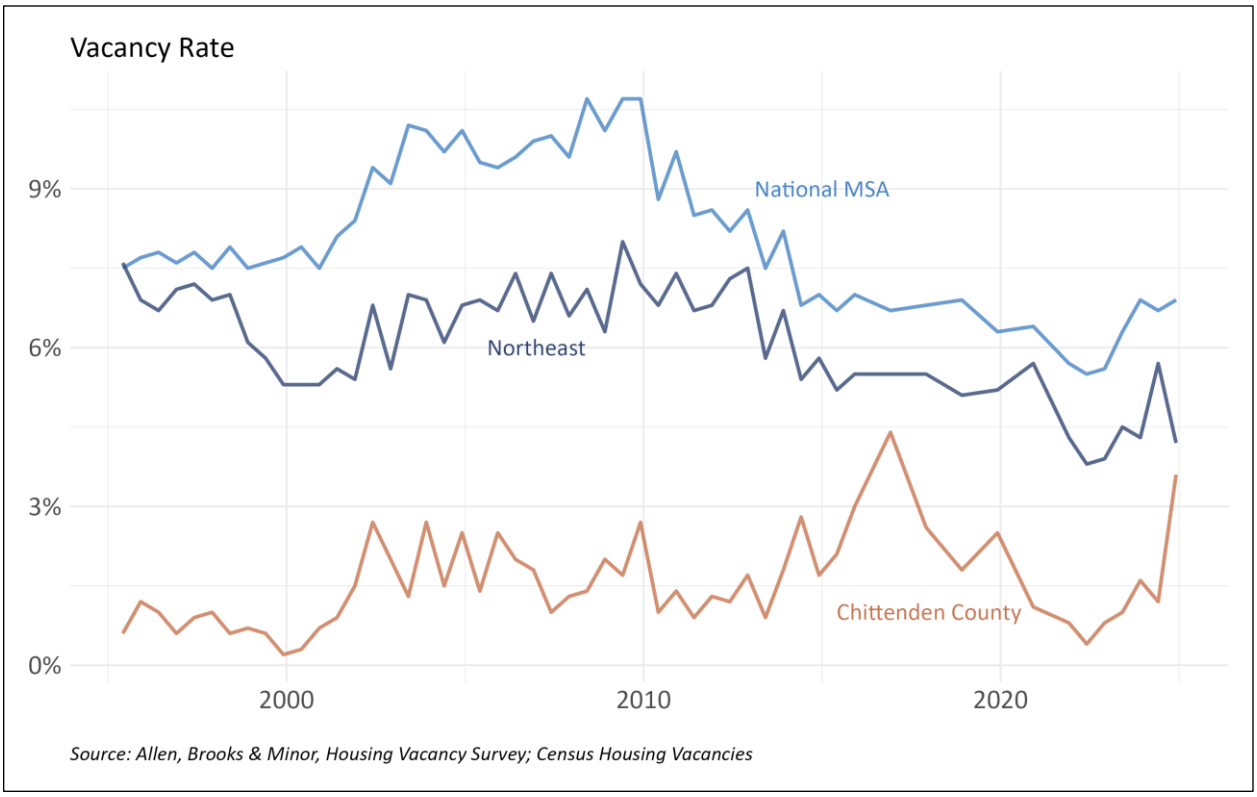
Address	**Assessed Value**	**Units**	**Average Assessed Value per Unit**	**Municipal Bill**	**Municipal Bill Change with Exemption**	***Annual* per Unit Change**
North Ave Apartments	$14,065,540	106	$132,694	$118,151	+$3,617	$34.12
Riverside Townhomes	$1,314,500	10	$131,450	$11,042	+$342	$34.20
Pearl St Apartments	$1,672,700	10	$167,270	$14,481	+430	$43.00
Home Ave Quadplex	$770,000	4	$192,500	$6,468	+$201	$50.13
Pine St Apartments	$11,683,200	49	$238,430	$98,139	+$3,042	$62.09
S. Union St Duplex	$738,000	2	$369,000	$6,202	+190	$95.00

Given the lack of tenant protections enshrined in law, it is a reasonable concern that the effects of the homestead exemption on municipal tax bills could be passed down to renters in the form of higher rents. The degree to which a landlord can do this is a matter of economic debate, and there is empirical evidence that landlords pass on some, but not all, of these costs. For example, a rigorous study[7] finds that landlords of residential units are able to pass down 14% of increased property tax cost to renters. *This memo conservatively shows a hypothetical and much higher 100% pass-through rate.*

There are many factors that shape a landlord's ability to increase rental rates, including market conditions and tenant behavior that can limit landlords' pricing power. In other words, landlords can charge what tenants are willing and able to pay, and some rent increases will simply be too much. While there are studies that show higher pass-through rates, these often focus on commercial rents, rather than residential ones.

[7] David J. Schwegman & John Yinger, 2020. "The Shifting of the Property Tax on Urban Renters: Evidence from New York State's Homestead Tax Option," Working Papers 20-43, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau. https://www.census.gov/library/working-papers/2020/adrm/CES-WP-20-43.html

It is also worth highlighting that the most recent measurement of the Chittenden County rental vacancy rate by Allen and Brooks, at 3.6%, was the highest it has been since 2016. A high vacancy rate further diminishes landlords' ability to raise rents, regardless of property tax costs.



Small Multifamily Property

According to state statute, a homestead may consist of a part of a multidwelling or multipurpose building but does not include any portion of a dwelling that is rented.[8] Owner-occupied duplexes, triplexes, and quadplexes can thus qualify as homestead properties for tax purposes; however, those that are not owner-occupied would not receive the proposed exemption. Instead, they, too, would see an approximately 3.1% increase in their municipal property tax bill. If conservatively estimating a 100% pass-through rate, this could result in a small increase of approximately $3 - $5 per unit per month.

[8] Residents can only file their homesteads on one property. If someone owns a duplex, and the duplex has separate parcels, the resident would only file the homestead for the unit that they live in. If the building they own only has one parcel with multiple living units on that property, they would file their homestead on that parcel and claim rental/business use for the percentage of space that they are not occupying as their primary residence.

Land Use	Median Assessed Value	Units	Median Assessed Value per Unit	Municipal Bill	Municipal Bill Change with Exemption	*Annual* Per Unit Change
R2 - 2 Family	$433,800	2	$216,925	$3,644	+$113	$56.50
R3 - 3 Family	$537,200	3	$179,900	$4,533	+$140	$46.70
R4 - 4 Family	$611,600	4	$152,888	$5,137	+$159	$39.75

Senior Housing

Like other non-homestead properties, senior housing would see a 3.1% increase in municipal property taxes under a homestead exemption. Due to the low per-unit assessments of these properties, the dollar value of increases per unit and month would be smaller than increases across other rental properties.

This table shows the effect of the homestead exemption on a selection of senior housing properties in Burlington.

Name	Assessed Value	Assessed Value Per Unit	Units	Municipal Bill	Municipal Bill Change with Exemption	*Annual* Per Unit Change
Converse Home	$1,097,300	$17,989	61	$9,217	+$282	$4.62
Birchwood Terrace	$11,937,400*	$74,609	160	$100,274	+$3,108	$19.42
Elderwood	$13,351,800	$89,012	150	$112,155	+$3,476	$23.18
Burlington Health and Rehab	$7,212,600	$82,903	87	$60,586	+$1,878	$21.59

* Includes the value of the building and leased land.

Permanently Affordable Housing

Like other rental housing, affordable rental housing properties would not qualify for the homestead exemption. Any effect of the homestead exemption on rent prices for affordable units is expected to be small.

Most affordable housing developments in Burlington—such as those owned by nonprofit or public entities like the Champlain Housing Trust and Burlington Housing Authority—are not

taxed in the same way as privately owned, market-rate housing due to state and local tax law. Depending on the property, ownership structure, and use, these developments may be fully taxable, partially exempt, or subject to alternative arrangements such as payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs). This structure allows affordable housing developments to meaningfully contribute to the City financially while preserving their long-term affordability.

In addition, many affordable housing developments are subject to rent restrictions tied to program income limits (e.g., rents set at percentages of area median income), and some receive state tax relief on assessed value to support affordability. Because rents in these developments must comply with those program rules, the ability to pass a property tax increase through to tenants is limited, and any resulting impact on rents is expected to be small.

Commercial Property

Commercial property would see an increase of 3.1%, like other non-homestead properties. The increase would be in direct proportion to the property's assessed value, so the magnitude of the increase would vary based on the wide variation in commercial property values. For example, a 1,000 sq. Ft. commercial condo in the Adams Building on South Union Street (assessed value: $119,800) would see an increase of $37 in municipal taxes per year. The Zero Gravity Restaurant and Brewery (assessed value: $4,325,600) would see an increase of $1,347. Hula, with an assessed value of $27 million, would see an increase of $8,355, or 3% more than what it paid for municipal taxes in FY25 ($270,480).

We recognize and appreciate that tax increases of any kind are serious considerations for our local businesses. We'd also like to emphasize that the City is committed to its business community and has made several recent changes and investments to help create a stronger environment for businesses to grow and thrive.

For example, beginning this year, the City has fully eliminated the Business Personal Property Tax, which historically raised approximately $1.1M annually from over 200 different businesses. That tax had been found to distort markets by discouraging capital investment, expansion, and replacement, while imposing high administrative and compliance costs and was thus eliminated. We invested $600K more in Great Streets Main Streets to reopen the street for the last several months during nights and weekends. We increased downtown BPD foot patrols since early summer 2025 and invested four-times more into the Howard Center Street Outreach Team compared to past years, both of which are very important to improving community safety in the downtown corridor. Additionally on the community safety front, we launched the Situation Table in July and worked with the Governor to develop a short-term response plan this fall.

Effects by Ward

The wards that would see the largest ***decrease*** in total municipal taxes are Wards 4 and 7, where there is a large percentage of relatively modest homesteads. Other wards would see an overall increase, though some increases, like for Wards 2 and 5, are minimal. Ward 3 sees the highest total increase due to the large overall grand list value there and the low percentage of homestead properties given its location that overlaps with the downtown area.

Ward	Parcels	Homestead Parcels		Non-Homestead Residential Parcels		Commercial Parcels		Median Homestead Assessed Value	Total Grand List	Tax Diff
1	961	439	46%	478	50%	44	5%	$433,102	$501M	$16,251
2	1,277	573	45%	641	50%	63	5%	$329,500	$570M	$7,576
3	1,200	272	23%	646	54%	282	24%	$464,396	$1,120M	$221,358
4	1,774	1,334	75%	422	24%	18	1%	$399,585	$839M	$(127,025)
5	1,700	1,065	63%	545	32%	90	5%	$453,949	$1,088M	$6,752
6	1,092	682	62%	367	34%	43	4%	$634,069	$760M	$20,256
7	1,911	1,458	76%	434	23%	19	1%	$294,147	$641M	$(201,664)
8	520	94	18%	388	75%	38	7%	$498,545	$371M	$71,827

Conclusion

As we consider the proposed tax reform, it's important to take a full and balanced view of what our city needs to remain healthy and equitable. Lower-income residents and working families have long needed meaningful relief, and many homeowners have not seen support despite rising housing costs and ongoing economic pressures. A revenue-neutral approach that adjusts the tax structure can help ensure that our overall system better reflects the realities facing all parts of our community. We must recognize the contributions and needs of businesses, residents, and homeowners alike to ensure that Burlington remains a place where everyone can succeed.

BURLINGTON VERMONT

TO:	City Council
FROM:	Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
CC:	Katherine Schad, Chief Administrative Officer Jessica Brown, City Attorney Jen Monroe Zakaras, Deputy Chief of Staff Nancy Stetson, Senior Policy & Data Analyst
DATE:	December 15, 2025
RE:	Background and Analyses for Town Meeting Day 2026 Advisory Question on $30k Homestead Tax Exemption

---

Purpose

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[2] According to a 2023 equity analysis of property in Burlington conducted by real estate analysis firm, Urban3:
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[3] David Schleicher. "Your House Is Worth More Than They Think: The Strange Case of Property Tax Regressivity." Harvard Law School Journal on Legislation, Volume 62.1 (Winter 2025).
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These exemptions help *working households* in particular because they lower residential property-tax burdens, offering the greatest relief where it's most needed. This is especially helpful when home values rise faster than wages, as we are seeing in Burlington. Importantly, the proposed homestead exemption would apply only to primary homestead residences, which means the tax relief would go to people actually living and working in the community – especially important for working-class households.

Consistent with a core recommendation of the Tax Fairness Working Group, an advisory question would allow for *meaningful public engagement* – which is an essential component of implementing any tax reforms – by ensuring that residents have opportunities to learn about proposed changes and provide input before final decisions are made through a charter change. Robust public engagement is a key priority of Mayor Mulvaney-Stanak's administration.

An advisory question is a question placed on a ballot to measure public opinion, not to create or change law directly. The result does not force the City to make changes to existing laws, ordinances, or charter provisions, so it is *non-binding*. Instead, lawmakers can use the result to help decide whether to pursue charter or ordinance changes, adjust policy, or drop an idea altogether. Advisory questions thus strengthen democratic participation and public engagement by giving residents a chance to express their preferences on specific policies in ways that can guide future decision-making by elected officials.

Potential Impacts of the Proposed Homestead Exemption

Homestead Properties

Homestead properties, as defined by the state, are limited to owner-occupied primary residences. The benefit from the exemption is inversely proportional to the value of the homestead.

[5] The exemption has two mechanisms - a reduction in value for homesteads, and an increase in the tax rate to ensure the same level of overall revenue. For non-homestead properties, the only effect they see is the increase in the tax rate. For homestead properties, there is both a reduction from the exemption and an increase from the tax rate, but for most homestead properties the reduction from the exemption is higher than the increase from the tax rate, resulting in lower bills. For the highest value homestead properties, the tax rate increase counteracts the decrease in taxes from the exemption.

Out of 5,917 total homestead properties[6] in Burlington, nearly two-thirds (3,638) would see a decrease of $150 or more off of their annual municipal tax bill.

- A $30,000 exemption would eliminate the municipal property tax burden on properties assessed at less than $30,000 – for example, many of the mobile homes at the North Avenue Co-op.
- Homestead properties in Burlington assessed at under $200k (N=410), such as modest condos, would see their municipal bill reduced by a median of $210 annually, or about 17% off of the annual median municipal bill for those properties.
- Homestead properties with a value of $200k to $400k (N = 3,089) would see a median decrease of $178 annually, or 7% of their annual median bill.
- At an assessed value of about $1 million, the exemption and accompanying tax rate increase would balance, resulting in no change to the annual municipal bill. There are 118 homestead properties assessed at more than $1 million; these properties would see a median increase of $65 on their annual municipal bills, or about 0.6%.

Non-Homestead Properties

Non-homestead properties are those that are not owner-occupied primary residences. Examples include second homes or vacation properties, rental properties, and commercial properties.

All non-homestead properties would see a tax increase of 3.1% under the proposed $30k homestead exemption.

Rental Properties

As noted above, properties in Burlington that are rented would not receive the homestead exemption, resulting in an approximately 3.1% increase in the annual municipal property tax bill for these properties.

This table shows the effect of the homestead exemption on a selection of rental properties, from small to large scale and representing various levels of value.

[6] For the purposes of this analysis, any property that is at least partially a homestead is included here (e.g., homestead properties that are partially rentals or also have a business use).

Depending on the assessed value per unit, the municipal bill change, *if* entirely and evenly passed down to renters, could result in a small monthly increase of about $8 or less per month per unit.

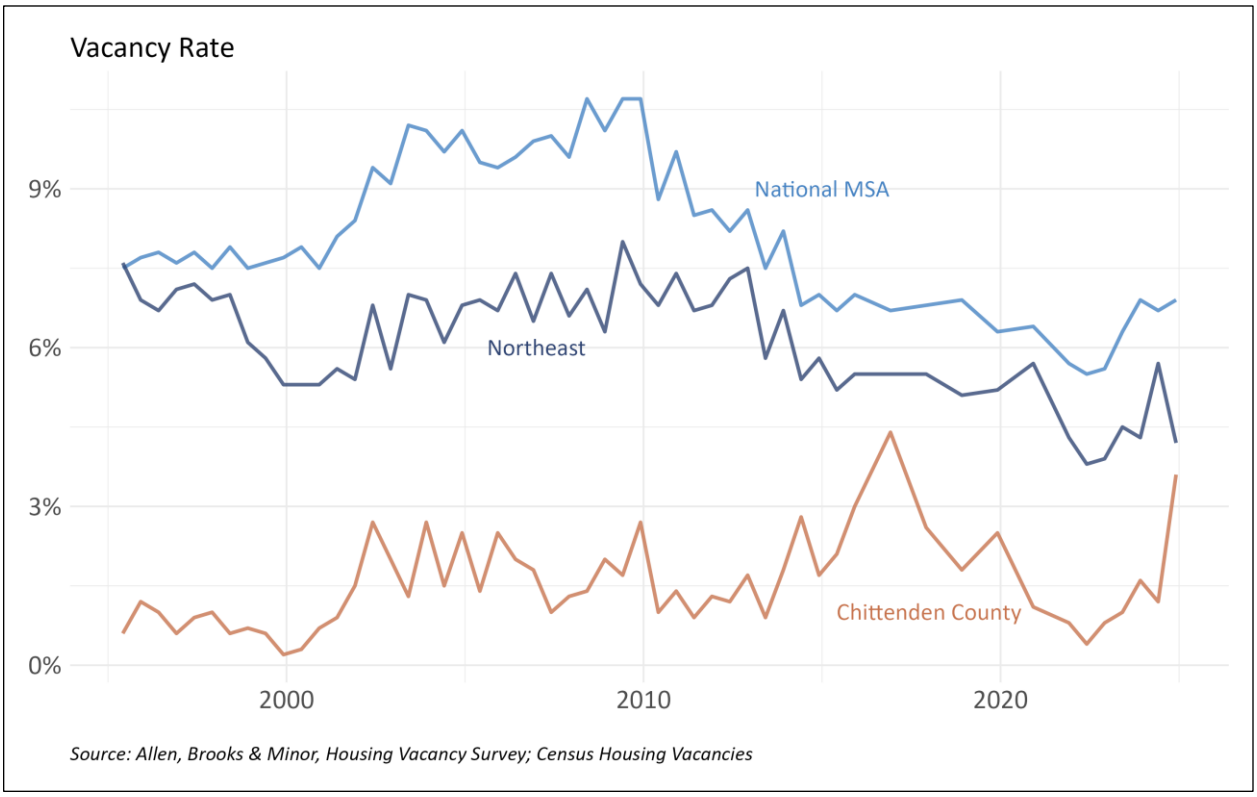
Address	**Assessed Value**	**Units**	**Average Assessed Value per Unit**	**Municipal Bill**	**Municipal Bill Change with Exemption**	***Annual* per Unit Change**
North Ave Apartments	$14,065,540	106	$132,694	$118,151	+$3,617	$34.12
Riverside Townhomes	$1,314,500	10	$131,450	$11,042	+$342	$34.20
Pearl St Apartments	$1,672,700	10	$167,270	$14,481	+430	$43.00
Home Ave Quadplex	$770,000	4	$192,500	$6,468	+$201	$50.13
Pine St Apartments	$11,683,200	49	$238,430	$98,139	+$3,042	$62.09
S. Union St Duplex	$738,000	2	$369,000	$6,202	+190	$95.00

Given the lack of tenant protections enshrined in law, it is a reasonable concern that the effects of the homestead exemption on municipal tax bills could be passed down to renters in the form of higher rents. The degree to which a landlord can do this is a matter of economic debate, and there is empirical evidence that landlords pass on some, but not all, of these costs. For example, a rigorous study[7] finds that landlords of residential units are able to pass down 14% of increased property tax cost to renters. *This memo conservatively shows a hypothetical and much higher 100% pass-through rate.*

There are many factors that shape a landlord's ability to increase rental rates, including market conditions and tenant behavior that can limit landlords' pricing power. In other words, landlords can charge what tenants are willing and able to pay, and some rent increases will simply be too much. While there are studies that show higher pass-through rates, these often focus on commercial rents, rather than residential ones.

[7] David J. Schwegman & John Yinger, 2020. "The Shifting of the Property Tax on Urban Renters: Evidence from New York State's Homestead Tax Option," Working Papers 20-43, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau. https://www.census.gov/library/working-papers/2020/adrm/CES-WP-20-43.html

It is also worth highlighting that the most recent measurement of the Chittenden County rental vacancy rate by Allen and Brooks, at 3.6%, was the highest it has been since 2016. A high vacancy rate further diminishes landlords' ability to raise rents, regardless of property tax costs.



Small Multifamily Property

According to state statute, a homestead may consist of a part of a multidwelling or multipurpose building but does not include any portion of a dwelling that is rented.[8] Owner-occupied duplexes, triplexes, and quadplexes can thus qualify as homestead properties for tax purposes; however, those that are not owner-occupied would not receive the proposed exemption. Instead, they, too, would see an approximately 3.1% increase in their municipal property tax bill. If conservatively estimating a 100% pass-through rate, this could result in a small increase of approximately $3 - $5 per unit per month.

[8] Residents can only file their homesteads on one property. If someone owns a duplex, and the duplex has separate parcels, the resident would only file the homestead for the unit that they live in. If the building they own only has one parcel with multiple living units on that property, they would file their homestead on that parcel and claim rental/business use for the percentage of space that they are not occupying as their primary residence.

Land Use	Median Assessed Value	Units	Median Assessed Value per Unit	Municipal Bill	Municipal Bill Change with Exemption	*Annual* Per Unit Change
R2 - 2 Family	$433,800	2	$216,925	$3,644	+$113	$56.50
R3 - 3 Family	$537,200	3	$179,900	$4,533	+$140	$46.70
R4 - 4 Family	$611,600	4	$152,888	$5,137	+$159	$39.75

Senior Housing

Like other non-homestead properties, senior housing would see a 3.1% increase in municipal property taxes under a homestead exemption. Due to the low per-unit assessments of these properties, the dollar value of increases per unit and month would be smaller than increases across other rental properties.

This table shows the effect of the homestead exemption on a selection of senior housing properties in Burlington.

Name	Assessed Value	Assessed Value Per Unit	Units	Municipal Bill	Municipal Bill Change with Exemption	*Annual* Per Unit Change
Converse Home	$1,097,300	$17,989	61	$9,217	+$282	$4.62
Birchwood Terrace	$11,937,400*	$74,609	160	$100,274	+$3,108	$19.42
Elderwood	$13,351,800	$89,012	150	$112,155	+$3,476	$23.18
Burlington Health and Rehab	$7,212,600	$82,903	87	$60,586	+$1,878	$21.59

* Includes the value of the building and leased land.

Permanently Affordable Housing

While affordable rental housing would not receive the homestead exemption, tenants would be shielded from large impacts on their monthly rents as these rents are capped based on household income. Some properties, like Decker Towers and others owned by the Burlington Housing Authority or the Champlain Housing Trust, are entirely exempt and do not pay property taxes. In situations where landlords are not yet charging the maximum amount of rent they are allowed by

law (i.e., they are charging below the rent cap[9]), any hypothetical pass through of municipal property tax increase onto tenants would be expected to be very low, given that the hypothetical increases discussed for private rental properties above is already quite small, and affordable housing is assessed at a discount per state/federal law.

Commercial Property

Commercial property would see an increase of 3.1%, like other non-homestead properties. The increase would be in direct proportion to the property's assessed value, so the magnitude of the increase would vary based on the wide variation in commercial property values. For example, a 1,000 sq. Ft. commercial condo in the Adams Building on South Union Street (assessed value: $119,800) would see an increase of $37 in municipal taxes per year. The Zero Gravity Restaurant and Brewery (assessed value: $4,325,600) would see an increase of $1,347. Hula, with an assessed value of $27 million, would see an increase of $8,355, or 3% more than what it paid for municipal taxes in FY25 ($270,480).

We recognize and appreciate that tax increases of any kind are serious considerations for our local businesses. We'd also like to emphasize that the City is committed to its business community and has made several recent changes and investments to help create a stronger environment for businesses to grow and thrive.

For example, beginning this year, the City has fully eliminated the Business Personal Property Tax, which historically raised approximately $1.1M annually from over 200 different businesses. That tax had been found to distort markets by discouraging capital investment, expansion, and replacement, while imposing high administrative and compliance costs and was thus eliminated. We invested $600K more in Great Streets Main Streets to reopen the street for the last several months during nights and weekends. We increased downtown BPD foot patrols since early summer 2025 and invested four-times more into the Howard Center Street Outreach Team compared to past years, both of which are very important to improving community safety in the downtown corridor. Additionally on the community safety front, we launched the Situation Table in July and worked with the Governor to develop a short-term response plan this fall.

Effects by Ward

The wards that would see the largest ***decrease*** in total municipal taxes are Wards 4 and 7, where there is a large percentage of relatively modest homesteads. Other wards would see an overall increase, though some increases, like for Wards 2 and 5, are minimal. Ward 3 sees the highest

[9] Vermont does not have a single, universal rent cap for all affordable housing; instead, rents are capped based on specific federal/state programs.

total increase due to the large overall grand list value there and the low percentage of homestead properties given its location that overlaps with the downtown area.

Ward	Parcels	Homestead Parcels		Non-Homestead Residential Parcels		Commercial Parcels		Median Homestead Assessed Value	Total Grand List	Tax Diff
1	961	439	46%	478	50%	44	5%	$433,102	$501M	$16,251
2	1,277	573	45%	641	50%	63	5%	$329,500	$570M	$7,576
3	1,200	272	23%	646	54%	282	24%	$464,396	$1,120M	$221,358
4	1,774	1,334	75%	422	24%	18	1%	$399,585	$839M	$(127,025)
5	1,700	1,065	63%	545	32%	90	5%	$453,949	$1,088M	$6,752
6	1,092	682	62%	367	34%	43	4%	$634,069	$760M	$20,256
7	1,911	1,458	76%	434	23%	19	1%	$294,147	$641M	$(201,664)
8	520	94	18%	388	75%	38	7%	$498,545	$371M	$71,827

Conclusion

As we consider the proposed tax reform, it's important to take a full and balanced view of what our city needs to remain healthy and equitable. Lower-income residents and working families have long needed meaningful relief, and many homeowners have not seen support despite rising housing costs and ongoing economic pressures. A revenue-neutral approach that adjusts the tax structure can help ensure that our overall system better reflects the realities facing all parts of our community. We must recognize the contributions and needs of businesses, residents, and homeowners alike to ensure that Burlington remains a place where everyone can succeed.

BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
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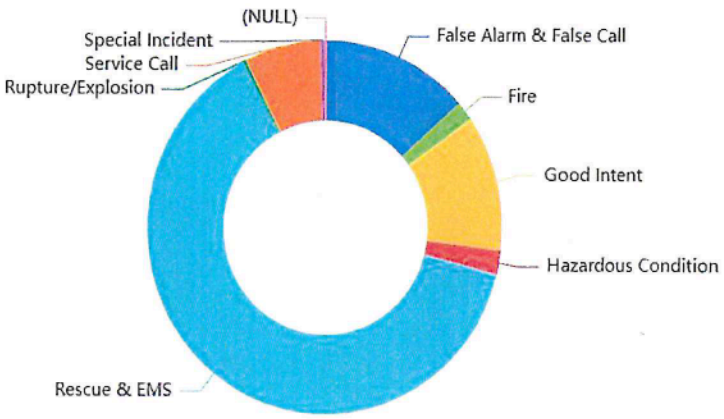
Chief's Report to the Fire Commission: November Data Points
December 9, 2025

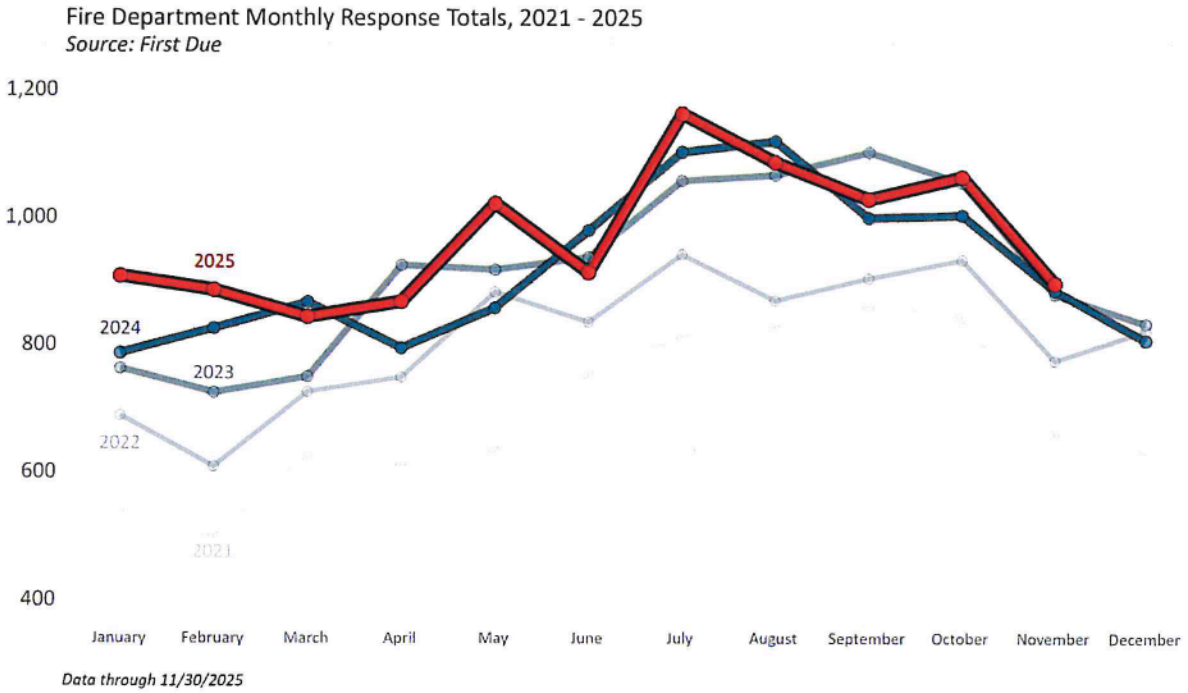
Call Volume & Activity Summary:

Total Incidents for the month of October: **894**
Total Incidents: (As of 12/1/25) **10,739**

- Fire Incidents: **137**
- EMS: **567**
- Hazmat: **19**
- Service Call/Public Assist: **62**
- Significant Incidents:
  11/23 2nd Alarm 32 Grove St
  11/24 2nd Alarm 178 N. Champlain St.
  11/24 3rd Alarm 230 Pine St
  11/29 Phase 5 at BTV Airport



During the same period in 2024, we responded to incidents **885**, a **1%** increase from last year.



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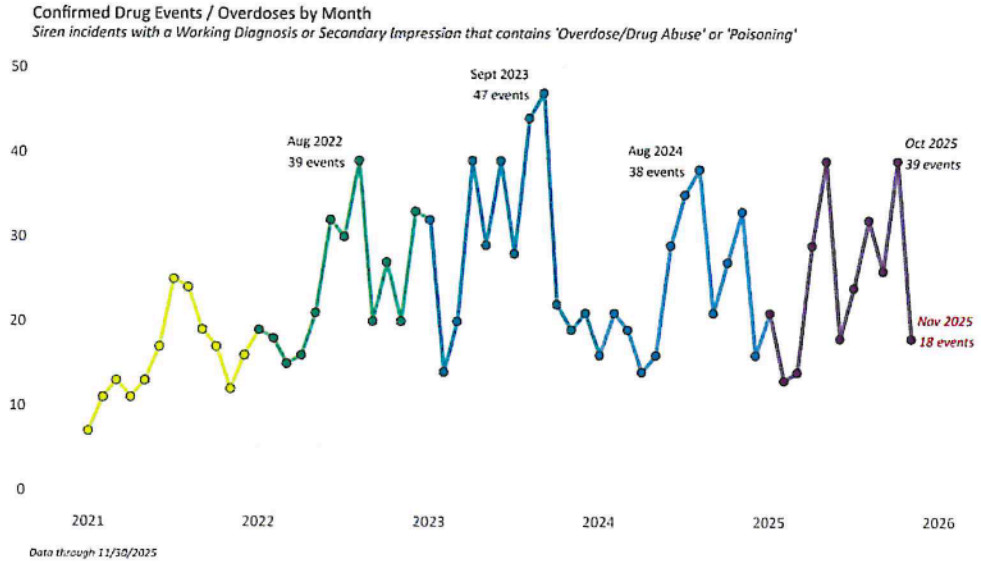
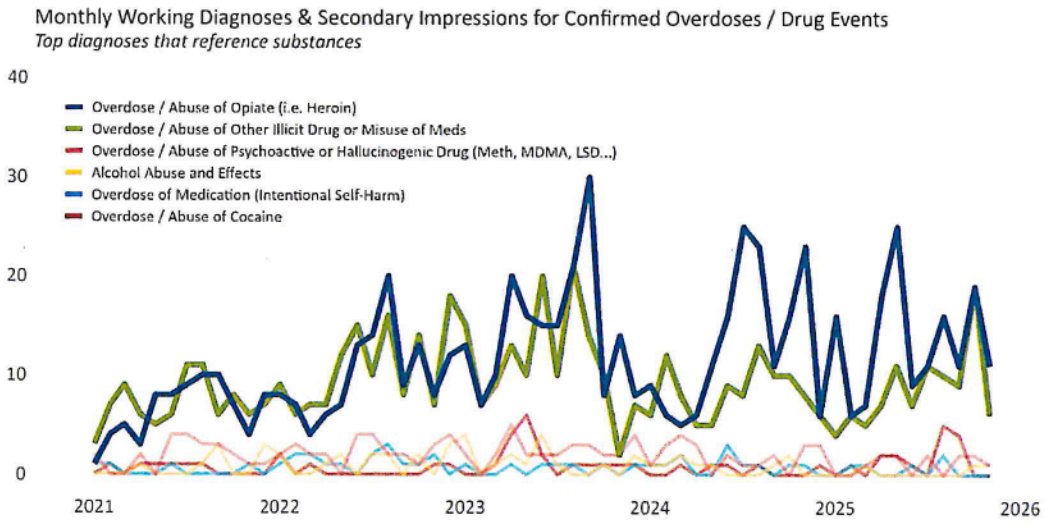
EMS Data:

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



The data on confirmed drug events and overdoses shows a persistent and significant demand on our EMS system. Monthly totals fluctuate, but the overall trend since 2021 reflects recurring spikes, most often in late summer and early fall, with notable peaks in August 2022, September 2023, August 2024, and October 2025. While November 2025 shows a temporary decrease, the broader pattern indicates no sustained decline in overdose activity. These incidents continue to place considerable strain on EMS and fire resources with the complexity of patient care. The ongoing levels reinforce the need for continued coordination with public health and community partners to address the underlying causes.



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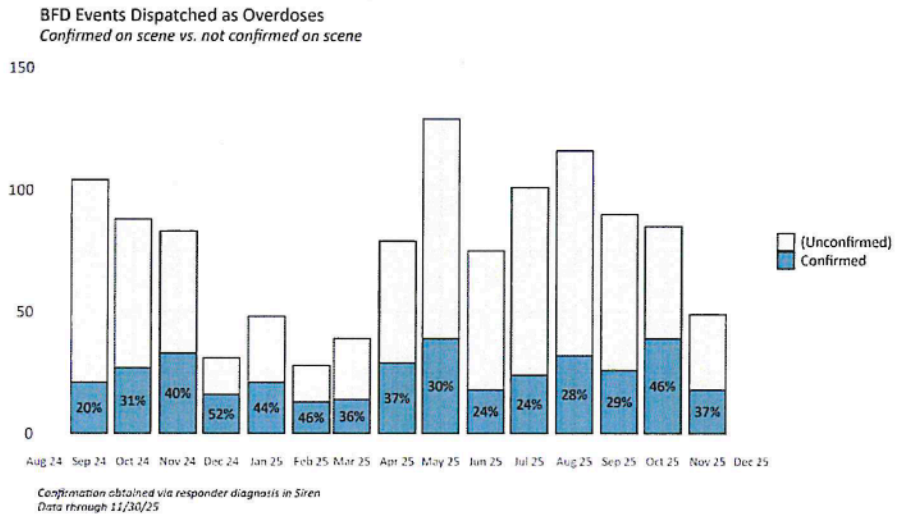
The data show a sustained rise in overdose-related EMS impressions from 2021 through 2025, driven primarily by opiate-related incidents, which remain the most frequent diagnosis and display significant month-to-month volatility. Other illicit drug misuse follows a similar but slightly lower pattern, with noticeable peaks aligning with surges in opiate overdoses. All other substance categories, hallucinogens, alcohol-related secondary impressions, medication overdoses, and cocaine, remain comparatively low. Overall, the trend reflects a persistent and increasing opiate and polysubstance burden on EMS responses, with no indication of long-term decline.



Dispatches for suspected overdoses fluctuate month to month, but a consistent pattern emerges: only about one-quarter to one-half of these calls are confirmed as actual overdoses once responders assess the patient. Confirmation rates vary from roughly 20% to 50%. The overall volume of overdose dispatches increases noticeably in the spring and summer months, with peaks in May, July, and September, reinforcing the seasonal rise previously observed in substance-related EMS activity. A portion of the unconfirmed cases is attributable to situations where EMS cannot complete an assessment, such as patients declining care, leaving prior to evaluation, being revived with bystander-administered naloxone, or not being located upon arrival.

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CRT Data for November 2025:

Staffed **4** days for the month of **November**

Total Contacts	Narcan Kits	Wound Care Kits	Comfort Care Kit	Referrals
11	0	0	0	7

Personnel & Staffing

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

- Minimum Daily Staffing**: 22**
- Vacancies**: 4 (4 in recruit school and do not count towards minimum staffing)**
- Injuries/LOA/FMLA**: 5**
- Staff Training Hours: **1502**
- Company Level Inspections: **0**
- Preplans Completed: **119**

Overtime Type	2025 Hours	2024 Hours	% + -
Minimum Staffing	1,685	489.5	+244
Mandatory	163.75	12	+1,264.5
CRT	58	258	-77.5
Emergency	93	5	+1,760
Extra Duty Events	17	0	+1,700

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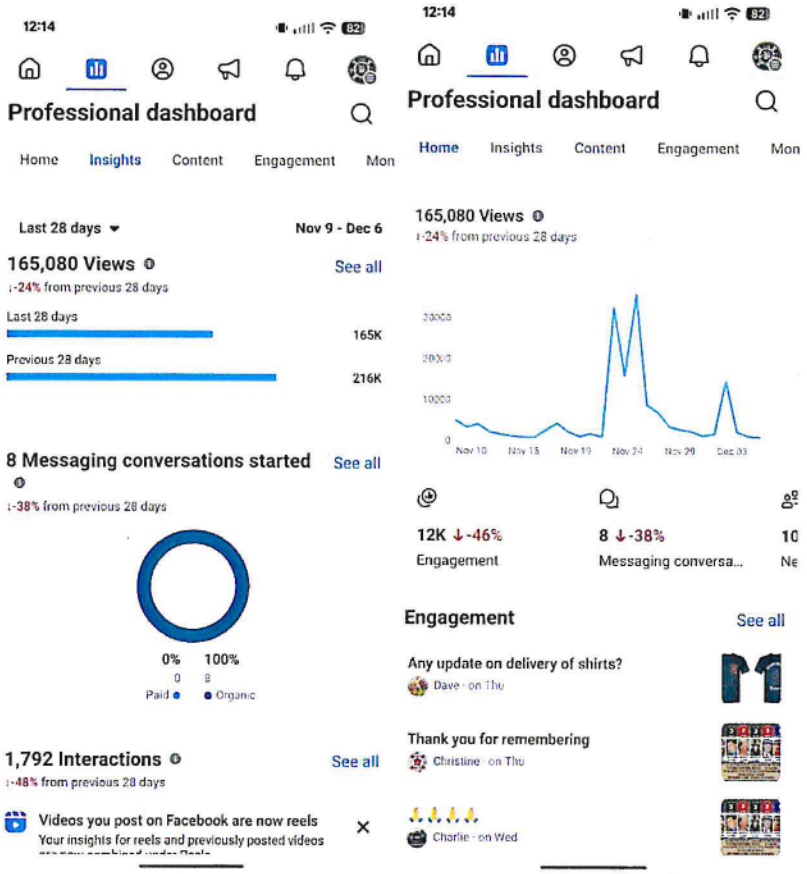
Community Engagement

- **11/2 Ride Along Engine 1**
- **11/3 Christ the King Fire Safety Education**
- **11/5 Career fair Boys and Girls Club**
- **11/8 Station 1 tour "Dads Guild"**
- **11/8 Station 2 tour**
- **11/9 Ride Along Engine 1**
- **11/13 Fox/NBC 5 Cooking fire safety education**
- **11/14 Ride Along Engine 1**
- **11/20 Mayor Ride along Engine 1**
- **11/20 Fire Drill 289 College St**
- **11/28 Santa parade**

- **Social Media:**



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Division Updates:

Operations:

Attend two days of Curt Varone training held in the city.
· Continued coordination with DPW related to fleet management.
· Attended meeting related to CAD communications and region wide use and operations.
· Reviewed Knox-box policy related to non-emergent use and communicated proper procedure to applicable agency.
· Met with representative of American Red Cross and reviewed shelters within the city and refreshed ourselves on services the Red Cross can provide.
· Responded to two of the three building fires most recently. Proud of the work our members do in dealing safely and efficiently in these fires and aggressive tactics keeping damage to a minimum.
· Participated in the VFA Fire Officer class in South Burlington.
· We are continuing our pursuit of grant funds for zodiac rescue boat. Dealing with a set back but remain focused on accomplishing our goal.
· Met with Fire Marshal and DPW regarding North Champlain Street bike path and the impediment it creates for fire department response and operations on the street.
· Attended meeting with group Friends of Firefighters which focuses on assisting firefighters with mental health and wellness services.
· Drone team met for presentation on DFR (Drone First Responder). Provided insight to future capabilities for drone use on the fire/emergency services.
· Shift Commander & DC Ops meeting to review and discuss operational ideas and making potential changes moving forward.
· Attend citywide meeting related to vacant buildings within the city and provide input to impact it puts on fire department.

Training:

- Recruit Class 25-02 is going well. Tentative completion is January 23.
- Congratulations to SFF Cochran, SFF Rice, and FF Gavelis for successfully completing Fire Officer 1 & 2.
- November 5th was the last live burn training for this year. Thank you to all the members who participated in this important and rare training opportunity.
- Working with the Vermont Fire Academy to Reserve dates for Spring live burn training.

EMS:

PREVENT Initiative: November 15 marked one year since launching the VDH PREVENT pilot. Although we received a variance allowing AEMTs to administer Suboxone, it was only used once. After reviewing data, crew feedback, and the operational realities of 911 encounters, we determined Suboxone administration is most appropriate at the paramedic level. The State approved rescinding the AEMT variance, effective **December 15, 2025**. We remain committed partners with VDH, Turning Point, and Howard Center as we continue exploring ways to support community health needs.

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- **VITL Access Training:** During the week of December 8, crews will be trained on **VITL**, the statewide health information exchange designed to improve care coordination. VITL will allow limited,

appropriate access to patient history when clinically necessary and will also be incredibly useful for crew follow-up and QA/QI review. Access remains restricted for individuals who have opted out unless in a life-threatening emergency.

- **Situation Table Overview:** Training will also introduce the **Situation Table** developed with the Mayor's Office and the State. Crews will learn its purpose, participating agencies, and how high-utilizer cases are supported. We will also review the Release of Information form, which enables coordinated discussions among partner agencies to address complex medical, social service, mental health, or housing needs.

FMO:

- Vermont has adopted the new 2021 Fire Life Safety Codes and Building codes. We were on the 2015 code cycle

Administration:

1. Recruitment & Retention
    a. 5 openings when including a recent resignation. Expecting (1) retirement in early 2026. There are already (4) prior candidates who have accepted conditional offers contingent on a May 2026 Recruit Academy.
    b. Job Posting – currently 23 applications for entry level and 2 applications for lateral firefighter.
    c. Advertisement – no advertising done yet beyond social media post and posting on government jobs. Preparing to boost post on social media and quantify impact of advertising.
    d. Working with Training and Human Resources to establish a defined "Onboarding" process within UKG that is inclusive of both the city's and fire department's needs.
2. Buildings
    a. Station 1 – Continue to have outstanding items for recent apparatus floor renovation. (stair treads, line striping, SCBA Technician work area); working with DPW to optimize parking lot layout; relocated ice maker off the apparatus floor.
    b. Station 2 – Waiting to determine timeline for finishing apparatus bay floor top coat. Seeking capital funding to replace a section of cast-iron sewage line.
    c. Station 3 – Seeking capital funding to replace components of sprinkler system. Apparatus bay floor renovation and dorm room remodel are in early engineering phase.
    d. Station 4 – NA
    e. Station 5 – Recently completed preventative repair work to boiler.
    f. All stations –
        i. Sprinkler systems repairs and testing required to bring systems in compliance with code. This will need to be a phased plan due to budget restrictions.

i. Working with Kim Bleakley (Central Facilities Manager) and BED in the development of a plan to replace multiple aging boilers, several of which are at nearly twice the expected operational lifetime.

3. Policy
   a. Recently updated *SOG 00.17 Advanced Staffing* to reflect current CBA and provide further clarification regarding OT hiring practices.
   b. *SOG 03.01 Bloodborne Pathogens*: Recently updated, with draft version out for review.
   c. *SOG 00.27 First Report of Injury*: New SOG in draft form and out for review.
   d. *SOG 00.15 Aladtec Scheduling Software*: Currently under review with pending revision to be disseminated for review.
   e. *SOG 00.05 Release & Waiver of Liability for Observers*: Under review with pending changes to SOG and required documentation.
   f. Updated several administrative forms. (FROI, Accident Investigation, Supervisor's Report and Witness Report)
   g. Pursuing policy management software.
   h. Pursuing options with Human Resources to leverage software for our annual employee appraisal process.
   i. Development phase for a formal complaint handling process, which will include an SOG and associated forms and template notices.

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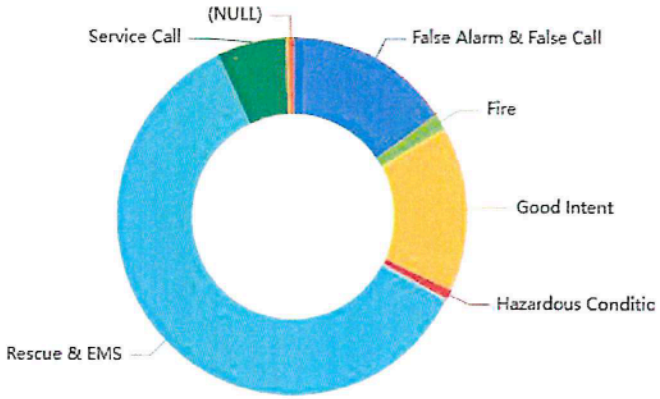
Chief's Report to the Public Safety Committee: October Data Points
November 20, 2025

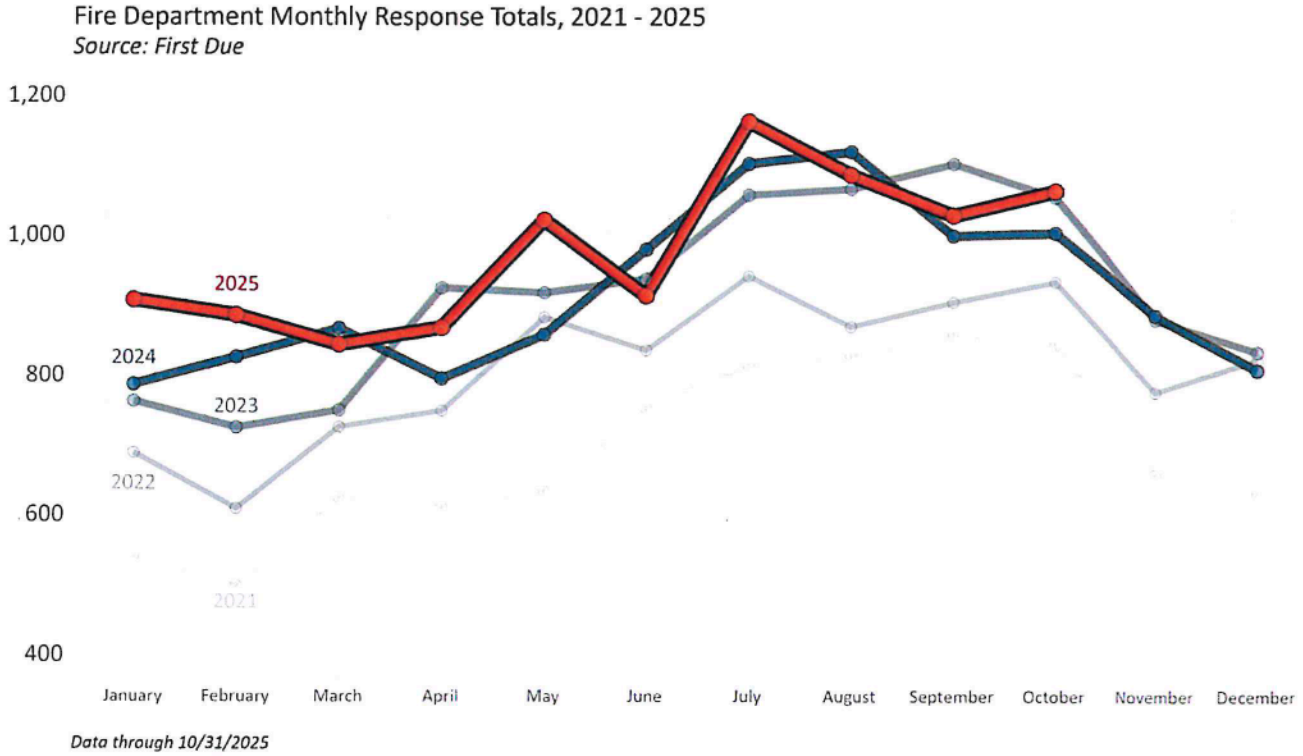
Call Volume & Activity Summary

Total Incidents for the month of October: **1,063**
Total Incidents: (As of 11/1/25) **9,835**

- Fire Incidents: **183**
- EMS: **645**
- Hazmat: **10**
- Service Call/Public Assist: **68**



During the same period in 2024, we responded to **1,004** incidents, a **5.8 %** increase from last year.



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EMS Data:

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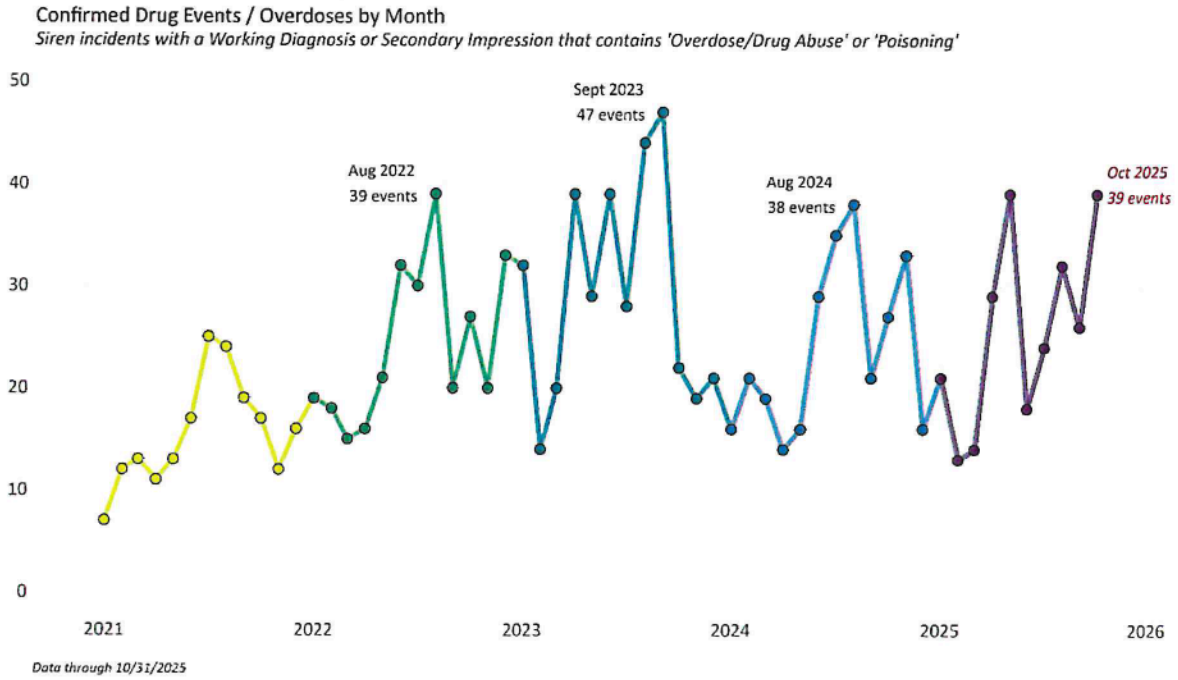
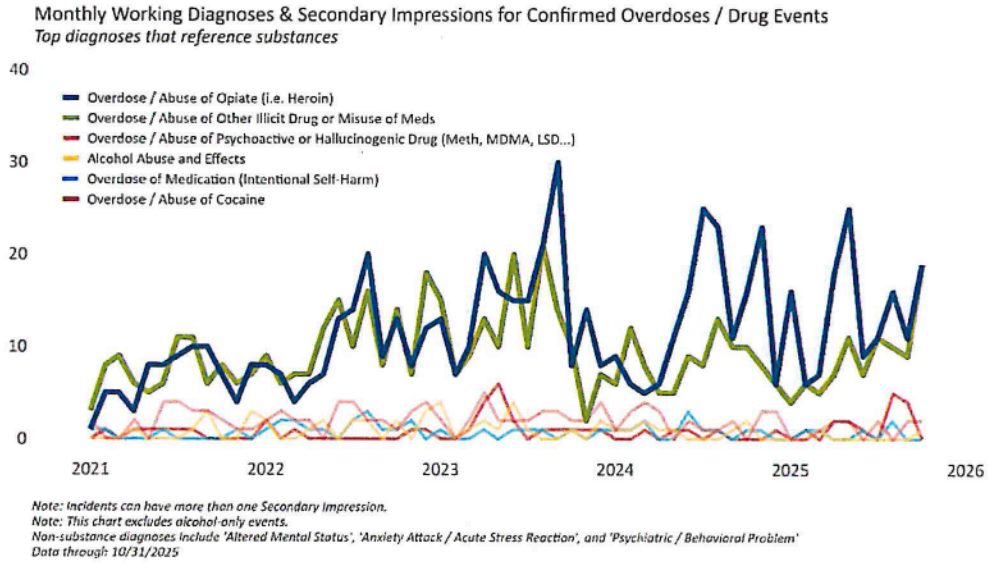


• There are several clear surge periods in the data. Significant peaks appear in August 2022 (39 events), September 2023 (47 events—the highest month in the dataset), August 2024 (38 events), and most recently October 2025 (39 events). Earlier in 2025 we saw a temporary dip, with some months dropping into the mid-teens, but the numbers climbed steadily through the summer and fall. The increase culminating in October's 39 events suggests we may be entering another higher-risk period.



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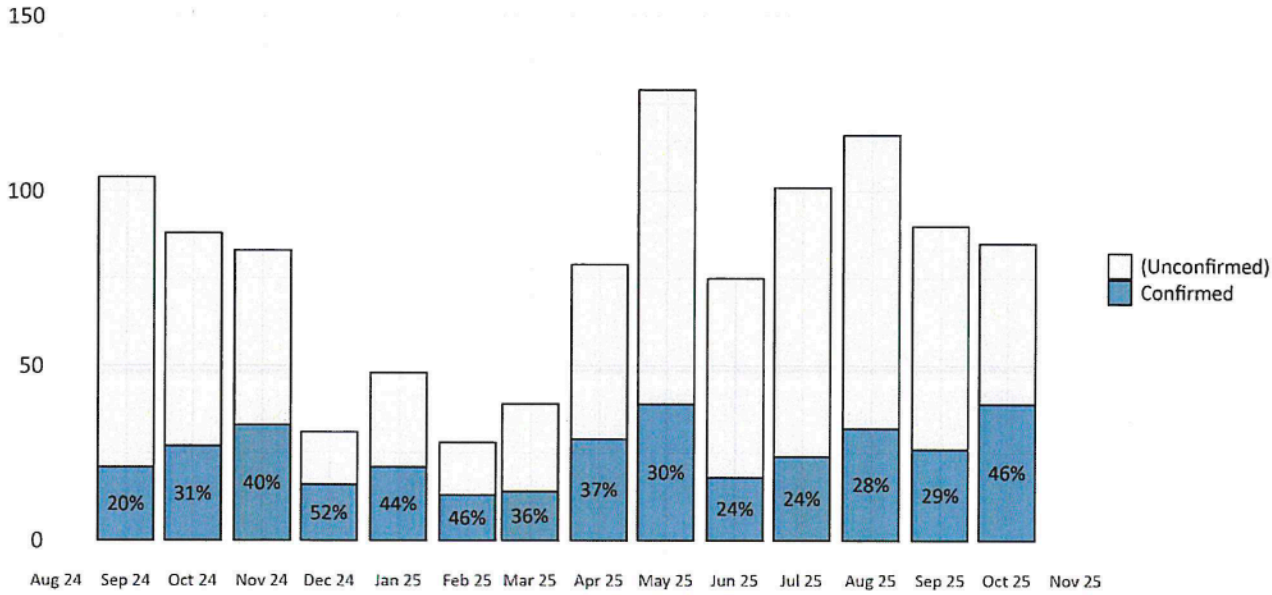
- While the data shows that "other illicit drug or medication misuse" has, at times, matched the number of narcotic-related overdoses, this does not fully reflect what we commonly experience in the field. From a response standpoint, our crews still encounter more opioid-related overdoses than any other single substance category.
  However, we *are* seeing a noticeable rise in non-opioid overdose activity. This includes:
  - Increased crack cocaine use and related medical emergencies.
  - More hallucinogenic drug use among younger individuals.
  - Several recent incidents involving youth taking large quantities of prescribed antidepressants or other medications—not always lethal doses, but clearly dangerous and requiring EMS intervention.

BFD Events Dispatched as Overdoses
Confirmed on scene vs. not confirmed on scene



Confirmation obtained via responder diagnosis in Siren
Data through 10/31/25

- Nearly half (46%) of the incidents dispatched as drug-related calls were ultimately confirmed as actual drug calls. We saw a similar pattern last fall and winter as well, so this trend is consistent with what we've experienced in previous seasons.

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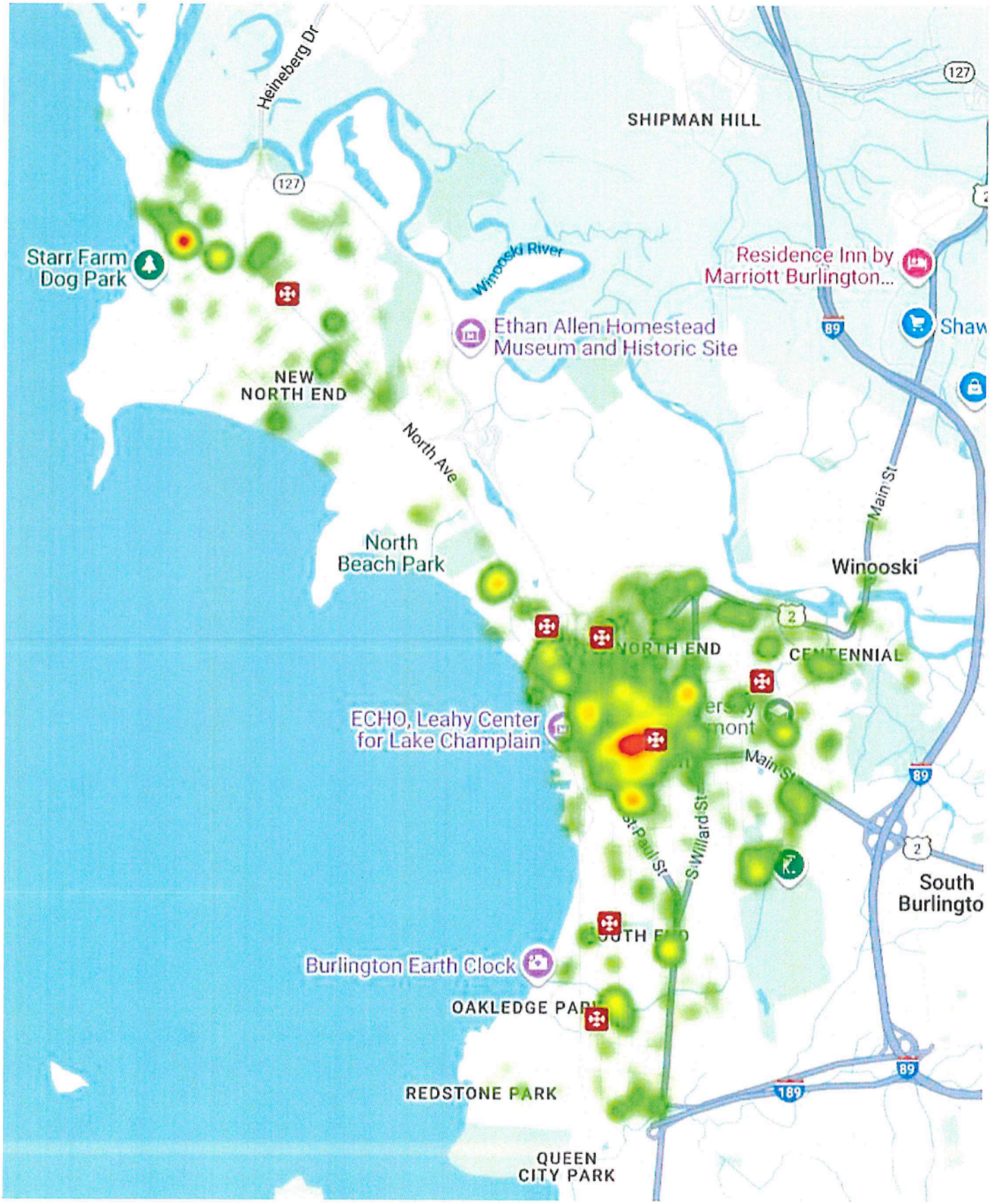

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CRT Data for October 2025:

Staffed **9** days for the month of October

Total Contacts	Narcan Kits	Wound Care Kits	Comfort Care Kit	Referrals
16	**10**	**5**	**8**	**7**

Personnel & Staffing

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

- Minimum Daily Staffing**: 22**
- Vacancies**: 8**
- Injuries/LOA/FMLA**: 6**
- Staff Training Hours: **1,451**
- Company Level Inspections: **8**

Overtime Type	2025 Hours	2024 Hours	% + -
Minimum Staffing	1106	401	175%
Mandatory	371.25	127	192%
CRT	216.5	212	2.2%
Emergency	0	59.75	-100%
Extra Duty Events	3	18	-83%

4 Recruits in school anticipated being on the floor in January

Community Engagement

- 10/2 Hunt Middle School Fire Drill
- 10/3 Cambrian Way Fire Safety Education; Lithium-Ion battery fire, cooking and kitchen fire safety, and general fire safety
- 10/4 Fire Safety Education- Fire extinguisher training, sprinkler head demonstration trailer with fire, Sparky the fire Dog, Champ and Riley the Cat. Lithium-ion battery safety, picture booth, fire safety handouts, Chimney Savers Co., Puroclean and dryer vent safety. Fire Fighter in full turn out gear.
- 10/11 Ride along with Engine 1
- 10/17 Station tour at Ladder 2
- 10/21 Mater Christi Fire Drill
- 10/24 Trunk or Treat Event at Mater Christi
- 10/30 Engine 5 Trunk or Treat at Pine Forest Children's Center

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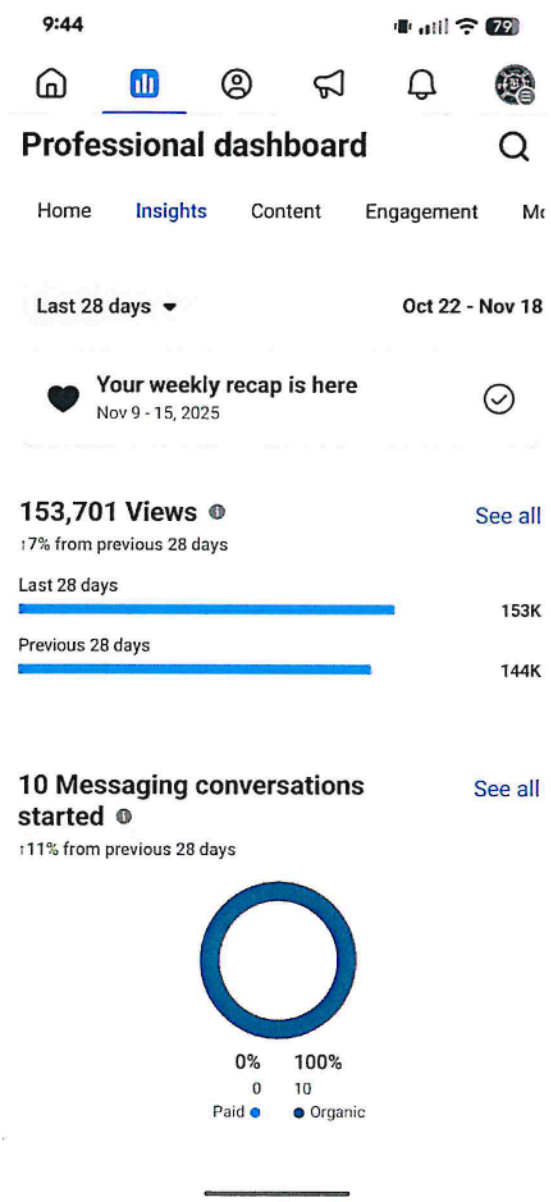
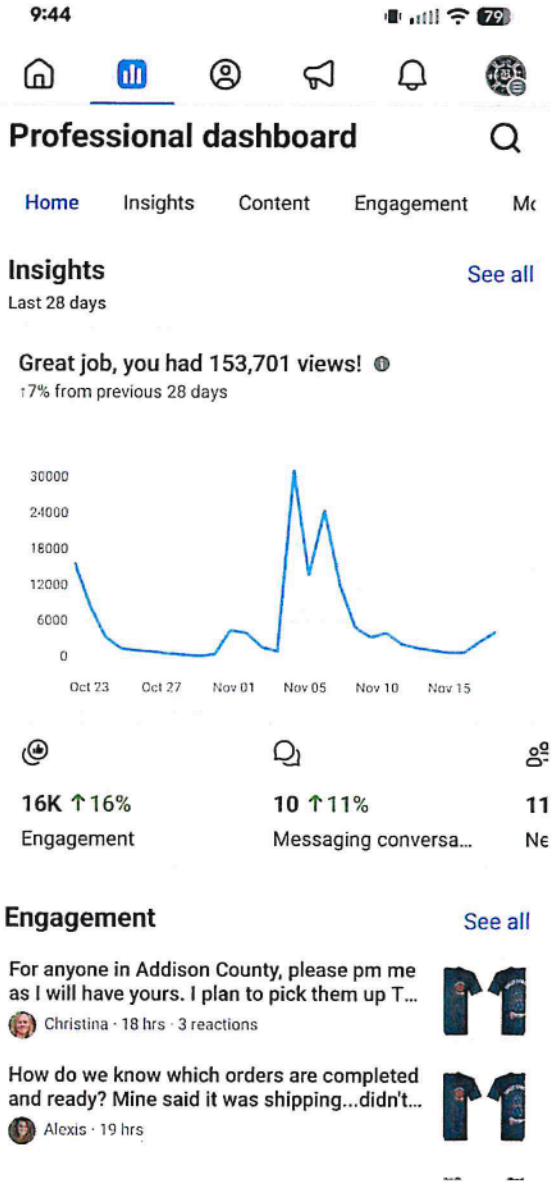
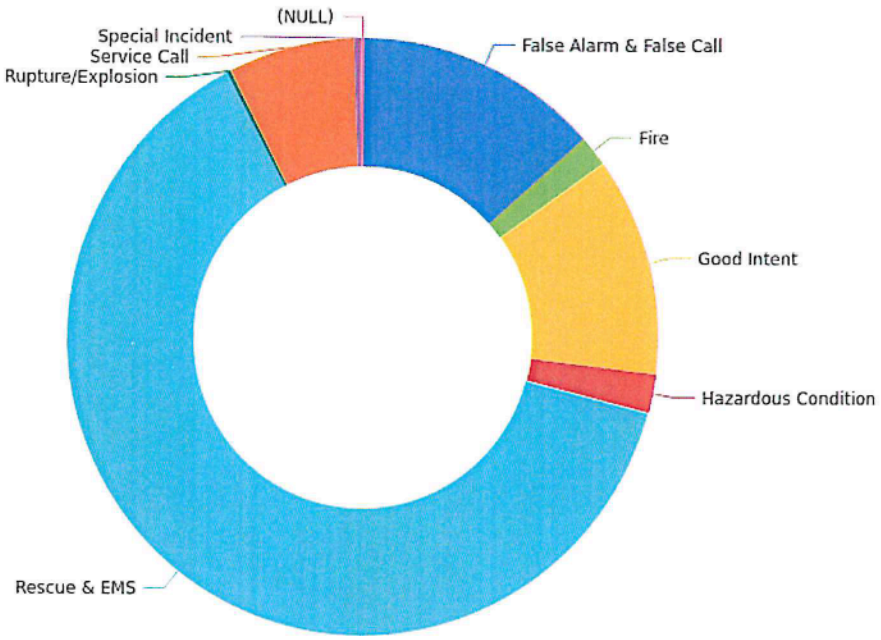
- **Social Media:**





Public Safety / Commission Report



INCIDENT TYPE SERIES NAME (NFIRS) / INCIDENT TYPE (NFIRS)	TOTAL CALLS
(NULL)	**2**
(NULL)	2
False Alarm & False Call	**120**
700 - False alarm or false call, other	1
7001 - False alarm caused by Contractor/Construction	2
711 - Municipal alarm system, malicious false alarm	1
712 - Direct tie to FD, malicious false alarm	1
714 - Central station, malicious false alarm	2
730 - System malfunction, other	2
731 - Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	1
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	22
735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	10

INCIDENT TYPE SERIES NAME (NFIRS) / INCIDENT TYPE (NFIRS)	TOTAL CALLS
736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction	2
740 - Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	7
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	46
744 - Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	1
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	20
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	2
Fire	**15**
100 - Fire, other	1
111 - Building fire	4
112 - Fires in structure other than in a building	2
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	3
114 - Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	1
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	1
150 - Outside rubbish fire, other	1
160 - Special outside fire, other	2
Good Intent	**106**
600 - Good intent call, other	41
611 - Dispatched & canceled en route	6
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	22
651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	3
661 - EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency	34
Hazardous Condition	**19**
400 - Hazardous condition, other	1
410 - Combustible/flammable gas/liquid condition, other	1
411 - Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	1
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	2
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	2
440 - Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	4
444 - Power line down	1
445 - Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	2
461 - Building or structure weakened or collapsed	1
462 - Aircraft standby	1
463 - Vehicle accident, general cleanup	3

Public Safety / Commission Report

Burlington FD
Address: 136 S Winooski Ave, Burlington, VT, 05401

INCIDENT TYPE SERIES NAME (NFIRS) / INCIDENT TYPE (NFIRS)	TOTAL CALLS
Rescue & EMS	**567**
320 - Emergency medical service incident, other	1
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	541
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	12
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	4
353 - Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	7
381 - Rescue or EMS standby	2
Rupture/Explosion	**2**
251 - Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	2
Service Call	**62**
500 - Service Call, other	1
520 - Water problem, other	1
531 - Smoke or odor removal	1
550 - Public service assistance, other	14
552 - Police matter	7
553 - Public service	6
554 - Assist invalid	25
555 - Defective elevator, no occupants. Includes Elevator alarms.	3
561 - Unauthorized burning	4
Special Incident	**3**
900 - Special type of incident, other	1
9002 - Test Incident	2
Total	**896**

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

December 16th, 2055
Chief's Report – Burlington Police Commission

Personnel: The department has been faced with serious staffing challenges in the Uniform Services Bureau (USB). Currently there are seven employees on long term leave, most of whom are injured.

Despite this, the officers assigned to USB have leaned into the work and continued to serve the community. Additionally, the members of the Drug Unit have stepped up to fill shifts and jump out into the field when needed. Detective Sergeant Phil Tremblay recently recognized these employees - Detectives Ellerman, Corrow, Hartnett and Congdon for their efforts.

Sergeants Eric Kratochvil and Deidre LaCouture completed their field training and are now serving in their new roles in USB – each patrol team in USB has a sergeant. These promotions provide the opportunity for improved mentorship, field supervision, and for the lieutenants to function as watch commanders.

On December 5th, 2025, Detective Lieutenant Michael Beliveau graduated from the **DC Police Leadership Academy.** The DC Police Leadership Academy (DCPLA) convenes a diverse cohort of emerging leaders with the goal of shaping the future of law enforcement by enhancing their leadership skills.

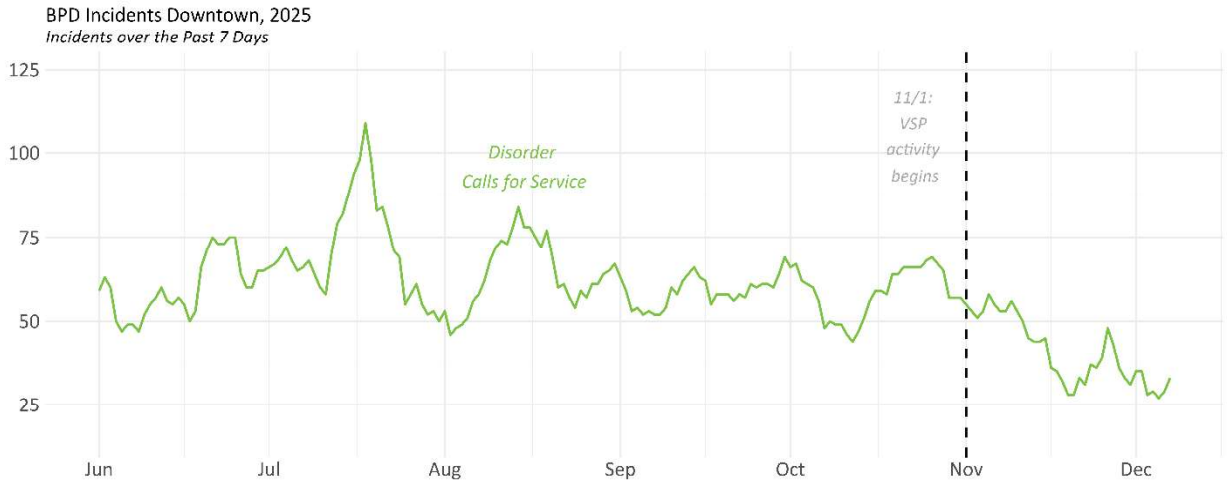
Lt. Beliveau spent a total of three weeks in Washington, DC, learning alongside a diverse group of law enforcement peers from across the nation and world. The academy combines seminars from leading experts on contemporary policing challenges with exclusive access to sites across the capital to create a truly unique educational experience.

Operations: We have been working closely with our state partners as part of the 14 step plan developed by the Mayor and Governor to address the issues facing Burlington. The Vermont State Police foot patrols of the Church Street Marketplace have been well received in addition to the traffic enforcement efforts of the Department of Motor Vehicles Enforcement team.

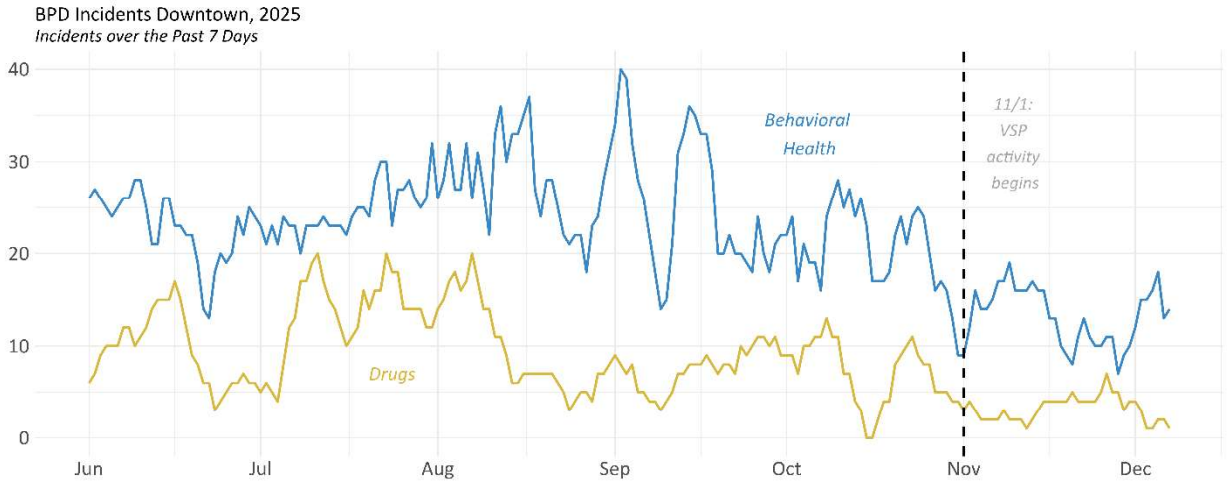
The early onset of winter has substantially curbed much of the behavior that led to the August 2025 Safe and Accessible City Hall Park Resolution. We continue to remain focused on the root causes of the behavior which led to the Resolution and collaborate with both the Situation Table and the newly formed Accountability Docket.

Sgt. Oren Bryne led the safety and security operation for the 2025 Holiday Tree Lighting Event. Sgt. Byrne worked closely with a variety of other City Department's to coordinate and execute the safety measures needed for the event. The evening was very well attended and was a great kick off to the holiday season on the Church Street Marketplace.

As part of this work the Department of Public Safety (DPS) requested data related to crime and disorder in the downtown district. The following illustrations were developed specifically for DPS:

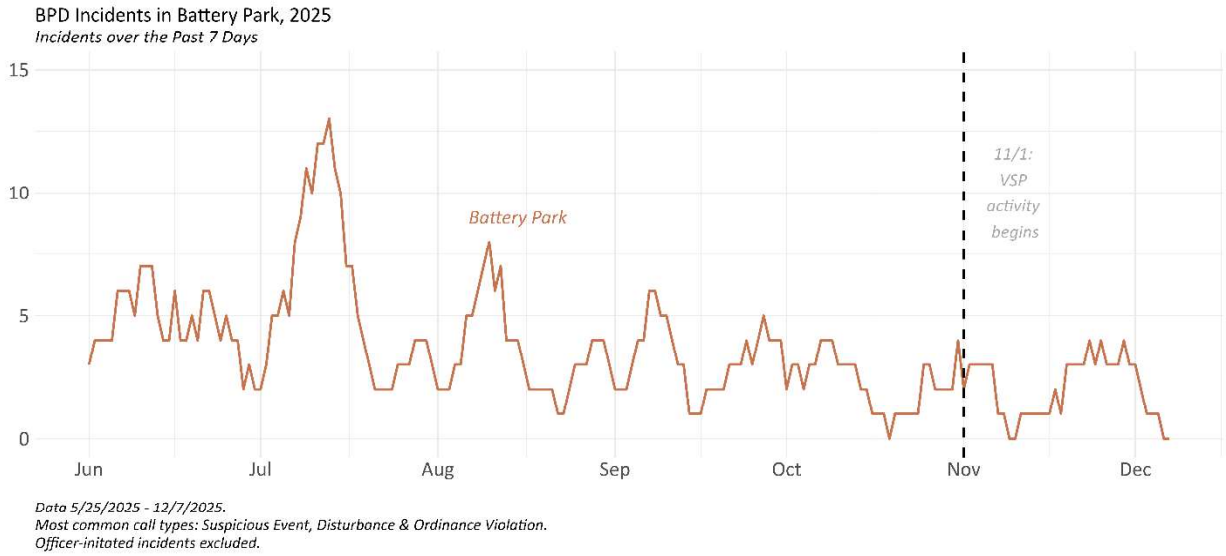


Data 5/25/2025 - 12/7/2025.
Most common call types: Suspicious Event, Trespass & Disturbance.
Officer-initated incidents excluded.

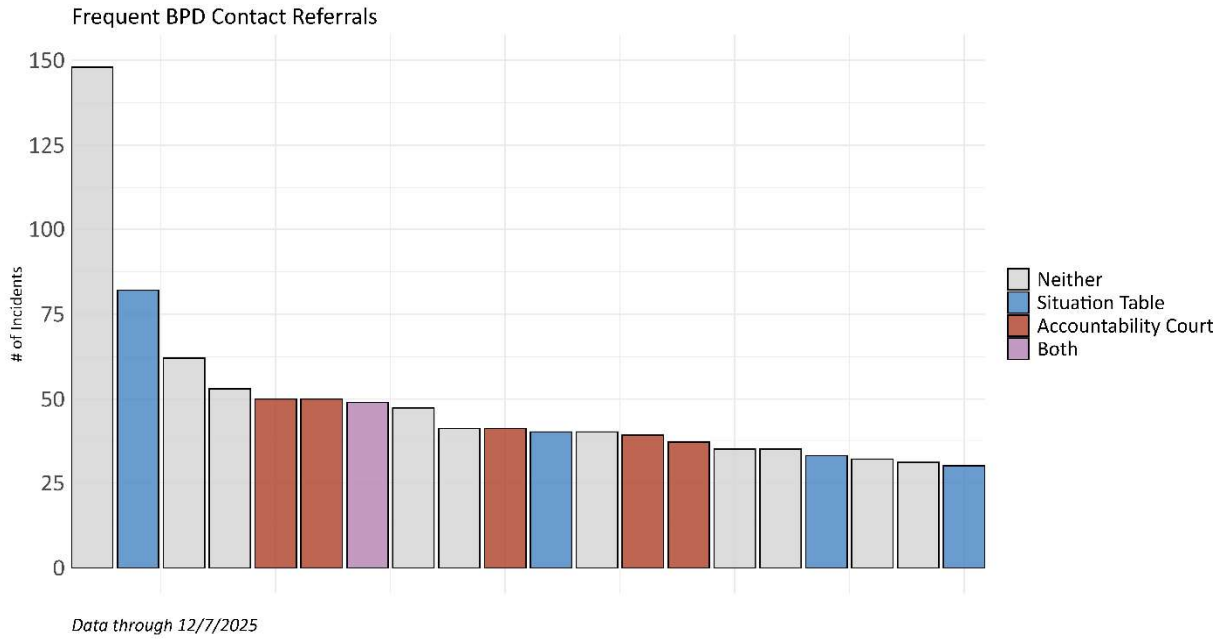


Data 5/25/2025 - 12/7/2025.
Most common call types: Mental Health Issue, Welfare Check & Overdose.
Officer-initated incidents excluded.

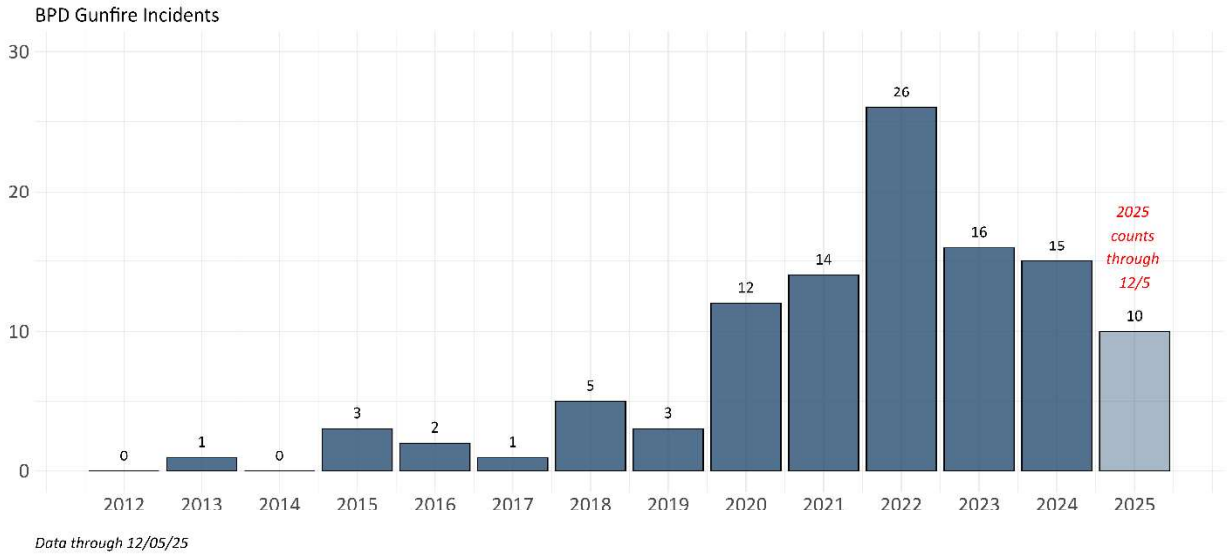
The following data illustration was developed for activity in Battery Park:



The last illustration captures the "Top 20" people associated with crime and disorder in the downtown district and referrals made:



Lastly, the department developed these illustrations related to gun violence trends in Burlington:



The department is in the early planning stages of developing a comprehensive 2025 data set for presentation in early 2026.

Recruitment: Command staff met with Human Resources to discuss the 2025 Recruitment Strategy which was published in late May. The review identified areas of success and room for improvement moving forward. Key metrics that the team examined included:

Social Media Engagement:	Increase engagement across both channels. Facebook views September – December **872,022** Instagram views September – December **83,106**
Targeted Marketing:	Two ads and two videos were run on digital platforms in specific geographic locations in December resulting in **15,990** impressions.
Application Data:	**20% increase** in the number of applications received 2024 – 2025 Cost of advertisement per application received in 2025 - **$98**

The recruitment team has been tasked with scheduling tabling and career fair events at colleges and universities in early 2026 as seniors begin to look for career opportunities. These recruiting efforts will be focused on police officer and beach and park candidates.

The department will be working closely with Human Resources on both improving the efficacy of our advertisement dollars and increasing the number of police officer applicants.

2025 Reflection: Despite the challenges of being short staffed and navigating the increasingly complex public safety needs of Burlington, many rooted in behavioral health, substance use, and homelessness, our department remains steadfast in its commitment to the community.

Every call, every shift, and every difficult moment reflects the hard work and heart our team brings to this profession. We take pride in serving Queen City, and we remain dedicated to building a safer, healthier, and more resilient community in 2026.