



Ward 8 NPA Meeting Agenda

Thursday, January 22, 2026

6:30 – 8:00 PM

Join in person: Sharon Bushor Room, City Hall (1st floor), 149 Church St

Join virtually: <https://zoom.us/j/91523077007>

6:30 **Introductions | 5 min**

6:35 **Public Forum | 10 min**

6:45 **City Council Reports | 10 min**

- Reports from City Councilors Allie Schachter, East District Councilor, and Marek Broderick, Ward 8 Councilor

6:55 **Town Meeting Day Ballot Questions | 45 min**

- City officials will share details about the proposed Town Meeting Day ballot questions, one of which is a proposed City Charter Change. There will be a presentation and Q&A with Chief Administrative Officer Katherine Schad; Mayor's Deputy Chief of Staff Jen Monroe Zakaras; REIB Director Kelli Perkins; and REIB Communications and Community Engagement Manager Christian Berry.

7:40 **School Board Updates | 20 min**

- Matthew Price, BSD School Commissioner for District East, will provide an update on the state education plan, the governor's recent education address, and the City Council vote. (15 minutes)

8:00 **Adjourn**

Ward 8 Steering Committee:

Tom Carroll, fourthriver@yahoo.com



REIB CHARTER CHANGE

OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY, INCLUSION, & BELONGING (REIB)

January 15, 2026




REIB Charter Change: What Voters Are Being Asked to Decide

- On March 3, Burlington voters will decide whether to add the Office of Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (REIB) to the City Charter
- The City Charter defines which parts of City government are permanent
- This change would make the REIB a stable, ongoing part of City government.
- Placing the REIB in the Charter helps ensure this work continues consistently over time, regardless of changes in leadership.



What is DEI in City Government?

Practical tools to improve systems & outcomes for everyone

Diversity	Equity	Inclusion
<p>Recognize our community's differences</p> <p>Understand that one-size-fits-all solutions don't always work.</p> 	<p>Address barriers to access and opportunity</p>  <p>Provide fair support so all can succeed</p>	<p>Ensure people feel welcomed and valued</p>  <p>Create spaces where everyone can participate.</p>

Focusing on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion helps the City serve all its residents effectively and fairly.

REIB Charter Change: What the REIB Does and Why it Matters for Burlington

What the REIB Does in Burlington

- Supports city departments in the development, implementation, and coordination for programs and services to ensure consistency and accessibility
- Provides training and guidance for City staff, boards, and commissions
- Creates ways for community members to engage directly with City government

Why This Matters for Burlington

- Helps the City and community respond to diverse and community-identified needs
- Supports a strong local economy and community resilience.
- Brings diverse perspectives into City decision-making and builds trust.



REIB Charter Change: Budget Clarity

Budget clarity:

- The REIB already exists
- It represents about **0.7% of the City's General Fund**
- At its highest funding level, it has never exceeded **1% of the General Fund**