



**CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT**

**CITY COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY &  
UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

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

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**Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee of the City Council**

**Tuesday, April 28, 2026 – 5:30 PM**

**--DRAFT MINUTES--**

See video for full meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r87gFTzsnXg>

**Councilors absent: None**

**Councilors present: Chair Barlow, Councilor Bergman, Councilor Broderick, and Councilor McKnight**

**Chair Barlow** calls the meeting to order at 5:34 pm

**1. Agenda**

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

**Councilor McKnight** seconds.

**All in favor, Unanimous approval**

**2. Minutes of 3/24/26**

**Councilor Bergman** moves to adopt the minutes.

**Councilor McKnight** seconds.

**All in favor, Unanimous approval**

**3. Public Forum**

**Nick Persampier** – Ward 3 – Talked about Thermal Energy System Carbon Impact Fee Ordinance that was passed in 2023 – looking for documentation. B.E.D. reports Greenhouse gas submissions down 17 percent in 2025 - asking for how calculation was figured.

**Stu Lindsay** - Ward 5 – Walk to Shop - goal to get people to walk. Goal to log a million steps in the month of May. Pedestrian scrambles workshop.

**Sharon Bushor** (Zoom) – Glad more steps taken for the pedestrian. Solid Waste Generation Tax – Charge every house – affordability concern.

**4. Deliberative Agenda**

**4.1 Burlington Walk/Bike Council & City Council Collaboration Framework**

**Phillip Peterson, Senior Transportation Planner DPW & Gordon Dragoun Walk/Bike Council** presented information.

**Councilor McKnight** wants to make sure that we are set up for success. Have info online on DPW Website. Like to have a spot on the agenda periodically. **Councilor Broderick** - make sure its successful and use email lists to keep people up to date. Supports this. **Councilor Bergman** – thinks this is a good step. scheduling is important. Supports this. **Chair Barlow** very supportive, over communication is better. How many people are part of the Walk/bike council now?

**All generated minutes w/ slight staff revisions:** The group discussed plans to establish regular meetings between the Walk Bike Council and neighborhood representatives. DPW expressed support for the initiative, suggesting they start with existing communication infrastructure like MPAs and steering committees rather than formalizing processes immediately. The conversation ended with a motion to refer the proposal to City Council for information, with plans to draft a memo outlining the initiative's goals and securing Council President's support for agenda placement.

**Councilor McKnight** made a motion to refer this to the City Council agenda. **Councilor Bergman** seconds. **Councilor Bergman** amends to have a revised memo from WalkBike council.

**All in favor, Unanimous approval**

#### **4.2 VT 127 SUP Connection Study**

**Bryan Davis Senior Transportation Planner, CCRPC & Maddy Suender, Associate Engineer** presented information.

**Councilor Bergman** stated it is a pain to get from the homestead to North Ave. what would be the estimated construction time? **Councilor McKnight** - most people are not using this as a commuter path – exciting but what happens next, how do we build it? **Councilor Broderick** – on the script. **Chair Barlow** - this is my neighborhood, welcomes the improvement.

**All generated minutes w/ slight staff revisions:** The meeting focused on discussing safety improvements for the 127 corridor, with DPW presenting options and funding opportunities, including a \$5 million VTRANS bike peg grant program. The group discussed potential construction impacts and traffic disruptions, with DPW suggesting that traffic could be managed in phases to minimize disruption. The meeting focused on discussing the 127 path connection to North Avenue, with Brian Davis presenting a project overview and alternatives. The team reviewed public engagement efforts, including advisory committee meetings and surveys that gathered feedback from over 150 participants. The discussion covered safety concerns, maintenance issues, and opportunities to improve path separation and accessibility. The presentation detailed crash data showing 56 crashes over a 5-year period with no fatalities or injuries, and outlined Alternative 1 which involves reallocating space on the existing bridge by reducing lanes to 11 feet and creating a 14-foot path. The conversation ended with a unanimous decision to refer the proposal back to the City Council for approval, with a recommendation to proceed with the project.

**Councilor Bergman** makes the motion that this be referred back to the council for the approval indicated in this memo with TEUC recommending it. **Councilor McKnight** seconds.

**All in favor, Unanimous approval**

### **4.3 SWGT Policy Options (Who pays the SWGT in FY 27)**

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

**Councilor McKnight** - Offer Option D- why are we not charging everyone? Sliding volume scale? Where does composting fit in? **Councilor Bergman** – Memo is confusing. How would different plans relate to different populations? Make sure we are caring about income sensitivity. **Councilor Broderick** Agrees it should be affordable. What would option C look like? **Chair Barlow** where would the 1.45 be assessed? Tax bill?

**AI generated minutes w/ slight staff revisions:** The Transportation, Energy, and Utilities Committee discussed solid waste generation tax policy options, focusing on whether the city should implement flow control for residential recycling collection and whether all residents should pay for base solid waste services through a solid waste generation tax. The committee reviewed three options: maintaining the current structure limited to recycling service recipients, implementing flow control with expanded services, or implementing a two-tiered system with a base fee for all residents receiving trash service. While committee members expressed support for expanding the tax to all residents as a fair approach given the broader scope of services funded by the tax, they requested more detailed information about different population segments and impacts before making a final decision.

### **4.4 Cherry Street Condemnation Request**

**Laura Wheelock Assistant Director of Technical Services & City Engineer & Corey Mims DPW Senior Engineer** presented information.

**Councilor Bergman** - all but one is for temporary construction easements? **Chair Barlow** - same process as Winooski Bridge?

**AI generated minutes w/ slight staff revisions:** The committee also approved moving forward with the Cherry Street/Bank Street Reconnection Project condemnation process, with plans to seek City Council approval at the May 11th meeting to meet federal funding deadlines.

**Councilor Bergman** moves to approve the requested motion and to send this back to the Council for the May 11<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. **Councilor McKnight** seconds.

**All in favor, Unanimous approval**

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

**Director Spencer** spoke about:

- Fully underway with construction season
- Engineering successfully advancing the completion of the Champlain Parkway & Great Streets Main St
- Underway with paving program

### **6. Councilor Items**

**None.**

### **7. Next Meeting**

May 26, 2026, 5:30 pm at 645 Pine St.

### **8. Adjournment**

**Chair Barlow** adjourns meeting at 7:53 pm.