



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &
NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
c/o Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401
802-865-7144 VOX • 802-865-7024 FAX • www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

Councilor Evan Litwin (EL), Chair, Ward 7
Councilor Carter Neubieser (CN), Ward 1
Councilor Allie Schachter (AS), East District
Councilor Laura Sanchez-Parkinson (LSP), Ward 3

CDNR Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 20, 2026
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Sharon Bushor Conference Room, 1st Floor – City Hall

Committee members: Evan Litwin (EL), Allie Schachter (AS), Laura Sanchez-Parkinson (LSP)

City Staff: Christine Curtis, CEDO

Other Attendees: Gordon Dagoon, Jason Stuffle, Ellery Ames, Jak Tiano, Burlington Walk Bike Council

Draft Minutes

Meeting Started at 6:05 PM

1. Approve agenda

MOTION by Councilor Schachter, SECOND by Councilor Sanchez-Parkinson,
to approve the agenda

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

2. Public Forum

- No one spoke

3. Letter from Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation (GBIC)

- Informational only – to place on file

4. Community Block Party update – Burlington Walk Bike Council

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contact Christine Curtis at ccurtis@burlingtonvt.gov

- Designate a citywide block party weekend.
- Temporarily reduce barriers and administrative requirements for organizing block parties.
- Encourage greater use of streets as community gathering spaces.
- Build neighborhood connections and strengthen community engagement.
- Committee discussed whether to hold a single citywide weekend, multiple weekends, or a broader block party season.
- Selecting dates that avoid conflicts with major city events, move-in periods, and road closures.
- Potential funding sources, including Local Motion microgrants and Councilor Initiative Funds.
- Coordination with Neighborhood Planning Assemblies (NPAs).
- Marketing and outreach to ensure participation across neighborhoods.
- Whether the current requirement that 75% of affected residents approve a block party should be modified.
- Exploring digital signatures to simplify neighborhood approval processes.
- The Walk Bike Council will revise its resolution based on committee feedback.
- Committee members will work directly with organizers between meetings.
- The goal is to move a refined proposal to City Council in June rather than delaying the effort.

5. Graffiti Abatement Committee

- The committee began shaping a new community-focused committee to address graffiti, beautification, murals, and public art initiatives.
- Discussion explored Whether the name “Graffiti Abatement Committee” is too narrow or carries negative connotations.
- Alternative concepts focused on beautification, public art, or defacement response.
- Creating a centralized process for mural proposals and beautification projects.
- Supporting equitable access to funding and resources for community art projects.

- Coordinating volunteers, artists, businesses, and neighborhood groups.
- Developing community cleanup and graffiti-removal efforts.
- Gather input from organizations already involved in mural and public art work.
- Better understand how Burlington currently handles murals and graffiti response.
- Potentially create a volunteer-driven committee supported through CDNR rather than adding workload to city departments.
- Consider community cleanup days and neighborhood-based beautification initiatives.

6. Syringe Litter Recommendations

- The committee revisited a previously completed syringe litter report and discussed recent developments.
- Members discussed uncertainty about which organizations receive state funding for syringe service programs (SSPs).
- Questions remain about whether organizations beyond Howard Center receive state-supported SSP funding and reporting requirements.
- Members noted that Howard Center plans to discontinue participation in the SSP program after current funding ends.
- Discussion focused on possible future uses of the Clark Street property, including recovery housing opportunities.
- Members explored potential state and federal funding programs that could support recovery housing development through nonprofit partnerships.
- Next steps include:
 1. Revisiting the syringe litter report recommendations.
 2. Reviewing which recommendations remain relevant.
 3. Evaluating progress made since the report was issued.
 4. Potentially preparing updated recommendations or a formal resolution for City Council consideration.

7. Adjournment

- ADJOURN at 7:52 p.m. by Councilor Litwin with no objection